

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIV.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 28TH JULY, 1901.

No. 4.

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BIRTHS.

On the 30th June, at Newchwang, the wife of J. N. SEGERDAL, of a son.
On the 1st July, at All Saints' Vicarage, Tientsin, the wife of Rev. G. D. ILIFF, of a son.
On the 8th July, at No. 28, Sophia Road, Singapore, the wife of Dr. J. M. HANDY, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 22nd June, at All Saints Church, Batu Gajah, Perak, by the Rev. H. Pyemont, Chaplain, GEORGE LOVERIDGE BAILEY, of Tapah, Perak, to FLORENCE ANNIE BAILLIE-RULE, youngest daughter of the late Thomas BAILLIE-RULE, of St. John's, Woking.

On the 9th July, at the Armenian Church of St. Gregory, Singapore, by the Rev. B. G. Gasper, Vicar, ARBATHOON MARTIN SARKIS, late of Java, to REGINA, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. CARAPIET, of Singapore.

DEATHS.

On the 9th July, at 93, River Valley Road, Singapore, suddenly, A. ALLAN, Superintendent of the Savings Bank, aged 45 years.

On the 12th July, at Tokyo, YASUABURO WOYEDA, Director of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, aged about 60 years.

On the 13th July, at Kowloon, DOROTHY EDITH, the beloved daughter of Wm. W. and Edith WILSON, aged 7 months.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of the 14th June arrived per N. Y. K. steamer *Bingo Maru*, on the 15th July (31 days); and the English Mail of the 21st June arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, on the 18th July (27 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Governor of Shansi has telegraphed to the Rev. Timothy Richard announcing the safe arrival of eight Protestant Missionaries at Taiyuanfu.

In Lower Laos a rebellion has broken out against the French authorities, arising from the imposition of the fresh taxation. The rebels mainly object to the poll-tax.

The correspondent of the *Standard* at Brussels states that a syndicate of Belgian, French, and Russian capitalists is being formed for the purpose of constructing railways in China. The capital of the syndicate will be one thousand million francs.

H.M. sloop *Mutine*, which is to be sent to the China Station, has recently been completed by Messrs. Laird. She is of 98' tons displacement and 1,400 i.h.p. She carries six 4-in. Q.F. and four 3-pr. guns, has a speed of 13.25 knots, and her complement is 130 men.

It is reported from London that the official estimate for the repair of the Imperial palaces, temples, etc., at Peking amounts to 5,000,000 taels, while the repairing of the roads for the return of the Court via Honan and Chihli to Peking reaches another 3,000,000.

The King of Siam, who has been on a visit to Java, landed at Shanghai on the 17th inst. He was accorded an official reception, and lunched with H. E. Sir F. A. Swettenham, the Acting Governor. The King entertained Sir F. A. Swettenham at dinner the same night.

The *Novoe Vremya* regards M. Lessar's appointment as Russian Minister to Peking as a guarantee that China will maintain friendly relations with the Powers. His advice will be of great value when Russia decides to bring the Central Asian Railway into direct communication with Peking, via Chinese Turkestan.

Ever since it has become known that the antiquated and useless Tsungli Yamén is to be abolished in favour of something on a more modern basis, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, there have been many guesses as to who would be appointed, as the first Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the new Ministry, a number of names having been, off and on, tentatively published as prospective members of the new Foreign Office. The *Universal Gazette* now publishes the latest prospective Presidents, namely, Wang Wen-shao, and Chü Hung-chi, President of the Board of Works.

A number of Chinese merchants in Shanghai engaged in the Newchwang trade received from their agents at that port on the 6th and 7th inst. telegraphic news stopping all goods from being sent up North, until further notice. The reasons given are that the insurgents, generally styled "Red Beards" (*Hung Hu-tze*), are overrunning the whole of the region between Newchwang and Moukden, preventing communication between the two points and further North, and stopping all trade routes. Many merchants have already suffered from the insurgents, who carried off all the goods that fell into their hands, whilst several supercargoes have lost their lives.

The British Minister to Tokyo has forwarded an official note to the Japanese Government with regard to the establishment of a British Consulate at Bakan; but the Government has not yet replied.

The Sanmun Bay affair, according to the *Universal Gazette*, has at last been arranged by Viceroy Li Hung-chang with the representative of the Power which is credited with having designs upon the place. It is not yet known what are the so-called "arrangements," but it seems that Viceroy Li Hung-chang has recently wired to the Chekiang provincial authorities at Hangchow assuring them that "the acute part of the crisis had passed and that nothing unusual need be anticipated from foreign quarters."

A Calcutta telegram of the 28th ult. says:—"Under instructions from Government the Marine authorities in Calcutta have chartered yet another transport, the *Kaifong*, to proceed to Hongkong to bring back troops. She will be fitted up as a trooper for cavalry." Simla despatches give the following dates for the Indian troops leaving Hongkong this month:—The *Sumatra* with a detachment of the 16th Bengal Cavalry and Miscellaneous Headquarters Staff on the 20th; the *Glengyle* with the 20th Bengal Infantry, the Malerkotla Sappers and Staff of the 3rd Brigade on the 20th, and the *Nevasa* with No. 4 Co. Bengal Sappers and No. 2 Co. Bombay Sappers on the 21st July.

The Peking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* wrote on the 2nd inst. that all the local authorities emphatically deny that Tung Fushiang is contemplating rebellion against the Empress. They say he is still in high favour with that lady and has nothing to gain by rebellion. The general sentiment of the people is, however, that a future outburst of anti-foreign feeling is inevitable. How long it may be delayed will depend upon the precautionary efforts of the Foreign Powers to prevent it. While they are vigilant and maintain a considerable force in the country, there is not much to fear. But as soon as it is at all feasible another uprising will take place. The Conservative party will only yield their stupid opposition to progress and reform with their lives.

There are a number of changes taking place in the personnel of the Korean Customs service, according to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*. The Commissioner at Fusan, M. Laporte, a Frenchman, has been transferred from that port to Chemulpo. His successor will be Mr. Osborne, an Englishman. Mr. Chalmers goes as Acting Commissioner-General to Seoul. English diplomacy during the trouble with the Koreans has certainly gained the victory. It seems that the Commissioner-General, Mr. McLeavy Brown, intends to leave Seoul in a very short time on long leave, from which he will not return to his post in Corea. It is reported there that a near relation of Sir Robert Hart's will be successor to Mr. McLeavy Brown. It cannot be denied that he is entitled to a great deal of praise for the work he has done in Corea, but on the other hand he has made a number of enemies through his unbending will at the Korean Court in Seoul. It now seems that the British are willing to comply with the old wish of the Korean Government by appointing someone else in Mr. Brown's place.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE FAR EAST.

(Daily Press, 16th July.)

Singularly ineffective was Lord LANSDOWNE's *apologia* for the Foreign Office in the House of Lords last week. Starting with the admission of a fact which has long been a notorious scandal, that not one official in the Foreign Office has served in the Far East, he proceeded to say that it would be difficult to introduce a different system. What the reason of the difficulty is we should like to know. Perhaps Lord LANSDOWNE stated the reason, but if so our correspondent has not telegraphed it to us. It is probable, however, that some vague generalities were thought sufficient for the House of Lords. They will not satisfy those who know how badly the present system works. If one thing is obvious, it is that under the present Foreign Office régime Great Britain has lost ground rapidly in China, and as long as this régime continues there is no prospect of improvement. Granting, for argument's sake, that a change would be difficult, it is none the less necessary. A reform of the War Office is a labour of the utmost difficulty, but it is nevertheless being undertaken. In comparison with such enormous changes as are in contemplation there, the improvement of the Foreign Office cannot be held a stupendous task. We do not know where the large staff of the Foreign Office received its training, apart from the matter of office routine; but we cannot believe that it is impossible for such staff to include men who have spent at least some time in the countries with whose affairs they are called upon to deal. A commercial firm might well be ashamed of a statement such as Lord LANSDOWNE did not hesitate to make about one of the most important Government offices.

When Lord LANSDOWNE went on to deprecate "going behind the backs of Ambassadors" and assured the House of Lords that it was the invariable custom to consult available persons possessing local knowledge, he must have felt what a sorry case he had to defend. The post of Ambassador does not make a man able or well-informed. If he proves that he is both, he has a claim to confidence, and to go behind his back is unnecessary and even impertinent. But how have recent British representatives at Peking shown their right to public confidence? What indication have they given of that pre-eminent ability which is as necessary in the post of British Ambassador to China as it is in any diplomatic post in the world? Where is the highly trained Intelligence Department, without which the proper conduct of such Ambassador's duties in Peking is impossible? Last year's events in North China are a sufficient comment on Lord LANSDOWNE's remarks. It may be said that few of the other Powers' representatives were any better informed. But there was a time when British prestige stood highest in China, and it is because of the long lack of a really able and well-informed diplomatist at Peking that our prestige has so declined. The advice of available persons possessing local experience, whom it is said to be the invariable rule to consult, does not seem to have helped the Foreign Office in its upholding of our reputation in China. It is useless, indeed, for the Foreign Office's apologist to pretend that available sources of information have been used. Even such a humble means of conveying news as the public Press might sometimes enlighten diplomatists, if it were thought correct to listen to it. Newspapers often go grievously wrong,

we fully admit, but there are occasions—there have been several in the recent history of the relations between China and the West—when the diplomatist may learn much from the Press. We need not do more than allude to the occasions when the *Times* correspondent at Peking has proved himself better instructed than his diplomatic fellow-residents. With practically no organised Intelligence Department of its own and a neglect of other means of information, it is little to be wondered that the British diplomatic and consular service in China is not wont to distinguish itself by displays of wisdom. It is a melancholy fact that the Government is apparently impervious to conviction on this point, and that after seeing the repeated break-down of the system, a responsible Cabinet Minister can calmly tell Parliament that it would be difficult to change. Difficult to change, it may be; but it is certainly ruinous not to change, and that, moreover, with all possible speed.

THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE NORTH.

(Daily Press, 18th July.)

We trust that the Powers are not making a huge mistake, which they will bitterly regret hereafter, in withdrawing the troops from China before the return of the Imperial Court and the re-establishment of the Government at Peking. But there are certainly disquieting indications of future trouble. In the first place, the delay of the Chinese Court in returning from Hsianfu, joined with the evident lack of trust in Western good faith, is significant of the far from friendly spirit felt by the so-called Government towards foreigners. Clearly the Empress Dowager's opinion of the Treaty Powers has been worsened by the events of the past eighteen months, and the fact that she favoured and continues to favour officials with Boxer proclivities is not calculated to create any confidence in her or her advisers. Then there are the facts, all too obvious, that men like Prince TUAN and ex-General TUNG FUHSIANG are high in favour at Hsianfu, although they were among the prime movers of the anti-foreign outbreak of last year. Both these powerful mandarins are at the head of numerous troops, the former being practically the leader of a formidable Mongol cavalry force, and the latter having at his beck thousands of hardy troops from Kansuh, able and ready to fight. Should these two chiefs be able to form a junction they might readily decide the fate of North China, whatever might happen in the southern provinces. What is the precise danger to be apprehended from the movements of these two whilom traitors to His Majesty the Emperor KWANG HSU, it is difficult to determine, for there is a strong conflict of opinion on the subject, many persons being of opinion that the Chinese have had more than enough of war and its attendant miseries, while others are convinced that the Government, in league with the anti-foreign party, are only biding their time to secure their revenge for the capture and partial sack of Tientsin and Peking.

The Peking correspondent of our Shanghai morning contemporary is evidently firmly convinced that another rising is inevitable, and that it will not be a mere abortive rebellion of the people against the Government. He says:—"All the Peking authorities emphatically deny that TUNG FUHSIANG is contemplating rebellion against the Empress. They say he is still in high favour with that lady, and has nothing to gain by rebellion. The general

"sentiment of the people is, however, that a future outburst of anti-foreign feeling is inevitable. How long it may be delayed will depend upon the precautionary efforts of the Foreign Powers to prevent it. While they are vigilant and maintain a considerable force in the country there is not much to fear. But as soon as it is at all feasible another uprising will take place. The conservative party will only yield their stupid opposition to progress and reform with their lives." On the other hand, Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD, who, as British Minister before the Boxer outbreak and through the siege of the Legations, should be able to give a sound opinion, is apparently confident that the Chinese Government have had their lesson and taken it to heart. In response to an interviewer at San Francisco on the 13th ultimo, when passing through that city on his way home, Sir CLAUDE said he thought it was a good thing that the foreign troops were being withdrawn from China. "There has," he said, "been too much friction among them, and the example was bad for the Chinese." "There is no danger of another uprising when the troops are withdrawn. There may possibly be instances of trouble, but they will not be on a large or alarming scale. China has learned a terrible lesson, and she will never again be guilty of such another grave mistake as that of last year." The same thing was thought after the humiliation of the Chinese Government at the end of the last war, when the Allies (England and France) dictated terms in Peking. But time blunts recollection, and very quickly so with the Chinese, whose vanity is proof against almost any assault, and recovers from almost any wound.

Moreover, Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD has not shown himself in the past to be an infallible guide. He utterly failed to grasp the danger of the Boxer outbreak until the Legations were invested, and he seems to have been bamboozled by the officials until he could no longer resist the evidence of his own senses and reluctantly had to admit that the Imperial soldiers were also taking a hand in the attempt to storm the Legations and massacre their inmates. Of course it is easy to err in the other direction and to give too credulous an ear to native reports. Making all allowance for exaggerations, such as that a million Mongols are ready to spring to arms in defence of the Tatsing dynasty, there is little doubt that Prince TUAN has gathered a considerable body of Mongol horsemen, and that he is shaping a course eastwards toward Yulin, an opening of the Great Wall on the Shansi frontier, with a view to penetrate into that province. It requires no great stretch of the imagination to believe that he is trying to effect a junction with TUNG FUHSIANG, who is said to be at the head of forty thousand well armed and seasoned troops, and if such junction is effected, it will not be made for nothing. At the same time we may take leave to doubt the accuracy of the figures given; probably the forty thousand, if they ever existed, would melt down to half the number if they reach Peking, but he would there no doubt be reinforced by large numbers of Imperial troops, who would spring into active being again if a chance of success were afforded. The province of Chihli is seething with disturbance, and large bodies of men are in arms there, and only require a leader to make them dangerous. Manchuria is also in a condition of anarchy, and its population are ready to give fresh trouble at the slightest signal. It would therefore be folly to shut our eyes to these very patent signs of future trouble brooding

ominously, and the Foreign Ministers will need to exercise all their wits and keep well posted as to the temper of the populace and the disposition of the Government during the next three years. Happily the Powers are not so blinded by their trust in Chinese submission as to withdraw all their troops; a few thousand still remain in garrison at Shanghai; but this force is small, and will be some distance from the scene of possible future operations. A garrison will also, we presume, be maintained at Tientsin for the present, and those at Weihaiwei and Tsingtau will doubtless be kept at very full strength. These are precautionary measures, of course, and will not be without their weight, even perhaps with the reactionary mandarins who influence the Empress Dowager and the Government. At the same time, it will be wiser not to trust in anything but a show of material force for some years to come, unless a new Government animated by a desire for reform and progress be evolved, and the Empress Dowager with the corrupt Palace rule be relegated to obscurity.

FOREIGN RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 19th July.)

The statement made by the Brussels correspondent of the London *Standard*, to the effect that a syndicate of Belgian, French, and Russian capitalists is being formed for the purpose of constructing railways in China hardly sounds new, for, as a matter of belief, if not of actual fact, it is generally allowed that Russia and France have had a hand in the Belgian Railway Syndicate all along. That the capital of the syndicate will be one thousand million (1,000,000,000) francs is, however, a new fact that is worthy of note by all interested in the advancement of China commercially. It is clear that a great effort is being made by the Franco-Russian Alliance to secure a predominant voice in China by every means within their power. Politically Russia is striving with all her might to obtain complete ascendancy in Manchuria, and that she should be surrendering Talienwan and intends to make Vladivostok the terminus of the Trans-Siberian Railway, in no way indicates that those efforts are being relaxed. Talienwan is to be abandoned simply because it has disappointed expectations, and the selection of Vladivostok as the terminus of the great railway is no doubt a measure of precaution, so that communication may not be so readily closed with the coast by an enemy in case of hostilities. Moreover, it is known that these concessions to Chinese sentiment are to be paid for by other concessions, which will probably be found to possess substantial value. In the south and on the west, France is pertinaciously pushing her supposed interests, by deciding to spend a vast sum in constructing a railway from Lookay in Indo-China to Yunnanfu; by placing gunboats on the Canton and West Rivers; by seeking to establish French interests in Canton (including the opening of a Post Office there); and by endeavouring to develop trade at Kwanchauwan. We do not say that these are not legitimate aspirations, so long as they are confined to the development of trade, but unfortunately there is always a suspicion of political motives lurking behind. Great Britain could have no possible objection to France developing a valuable trade with the southern provinces of China, but she must always regard with hostility any attempt to secure political influence with a view to establishing a protectorate over Kwangtung. The British Government have never sought this for themselves, although the colony of Hongkong has grown up at

the mouth of the Canton river and represents the toil and endeavour of more than half a century of successful trade and enterprise. It would be sheer folly on the part of France to seek to establish over-lordship in Kwangtung, for this would mean the ruin of British trade in China, and would be resisted with all the might of British arms. Why, therefore, our French friends will persist in trying to reap where they have not sown is to us a source of wonder and perplexity. The same energy devoted to the development of Indo-China would probably, if accompanied by a liberal fiscal policy, result in the attainment by that colony of a high degree of prosperity. But the French Government, in their overweening anxiety to afford protection to French manufactures, hedge trade about with such high tariffs that it dies from sheer inanition. The colonists suffer, the natives suffer, the Government does not gain, and foreign countries are estranged by this illiberal policy. A large army and navy have to be maintained to protect a commerce which was blighted at its birth, and the home Government have to furnish funds to assist to carry on the administration. Such is the result of the French Colonial policy, and it is not to be wondered at, therefore, that all their efforts to widen the area under the tricolour are regarded with an utter lack of sympathy if not with downright distrust or hostility.

It is to be feared that the movement now on foot to obtain rights for the construction of railways will be regarded with equal coldness and aloofness by other Powers. No one is desirous of seeing the colours of France and Russia floating over any concession in China, on account of the selfish attempts made to secure monopolies by these Powers. So far as the actual benefits resulting from such concessions are concerned, no one need grudge any syndicate what they can get out of them, and it would matter little, perhaps, by whom the railways were made so long as they were introduced into the Central Kingdom. The main objection to these monopolies being obtained by the Powers named is the political account they would seek to make by it. If French and Russian capital is employed in this manner it will be the part of the other Treaty Powers to see that Chinese sovereign rights are respected, but it is obvious that the seeds of serious complications may easily be sown while these railways are being laid. The best thing, were it practicable, would of course be to lend China the money, and let her make her own railways, under foreign supervision. Foreign investors would not, however, consent to advance money for such a purpose upon such terms; therefore that proposal is not within the scope of practical politics. Perhaps the most satisfactory arrangement would be for the capitalists of all the Great Powers to meet and agree upon their plan of action, each undertaking the construction of some main line within their sphere of influence. This has been done to a certain extent already. Russia is making the Manchurian Railways and contemplates connection between her own Central Asian Railway and the line to Peking; Germany is constructing those in Shantung; France is projecting one into Yunnan; none of which have been opposed by England. It should now be the turn of the latter to claim her right to lay a main line, and this should most certainly embrace the country lying between Hankow and Kowloon, via Canton—which we believe has been conceded to an Anglo-American Syndicate—and also any railways contemplated in the Yangtze Valley region.

THE PLAGUE IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 17th July.)

The occurrence at last of a period of twenty-four hours without a single case of plague or a death therefrom will be hailed with a general feeling of relief by every resident in Hongkong. It would be premature, perhaps, to say that this year's attack is ended, but at any rate the disease in its epidemic form has died completely away. Last year two fatal cases occurred at the end of November, while in the previous month there were thirteen cases and an equal number of deaths, and in the July-September quarter both cases and deaths were over 800. We may reasonably therefore congratulate ourselves that we seem this year to have passed through our troubles much more rapidly. The intensity of the attack has been nearly double this year what it was last. At noon of the 16th July last year the cases for the year had just passed 900, while the deaths were over 840. This year the record stands at 1,562 cases and 1,489 deaths. During the week which ended on the 14th July, 1900, there were 57 cases and 58 deaths. Last week there were 26 cases and 21 deaths. As, moreover, the past three weeks' record together amounts to 135 cases and 127 deaths, it will readily be seen with how much greater fury this year's epidemic has raged than in 1900. The total figures for last year reached 1,082 cases and 1,034 deaths, the mortality therefore being considerably higher than it is this year—a fact which is accounted for by the larger number of non-Chinese attacked this year. In 1900 only 28 cases and 15 deaths were among the non-Chinese. This year there have been 28 cases and 9 deaths among the Europeans alone, and among the non-Chinese altogether 79 cases and 43 deaths. It is too early at this period to draw any conclusion from the figures or to make sound comparisons with other years of epidemic. But it can be stated that the attack from which we seem just to have recovered was of an entirely different nature from that of last year. It has been much more violent in kind, and we trust it will prove to be much shorter in duration.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 13th July, 8.7 a.m.

The Governor of Shansi telegraphs that a party of eight Protestant missionaries have reached Taiyuanfu in safety.

Lieutenant-Colonel Powell, of General Barrow's staff, has arrived at Newchwang. The Russians now deny having arrested him at all.

Prince Chun leaves Peking to-day on his way to Germany on the mission of apology.

SHANGHAI, 15th July, 8.20 p.m.

Prince Chun arrived in Shanghai to-day. His official landing takes place to-morrow. He lodges at the Taotai's house in Bubbling Well Road. His only escort is the Municipal Police.

SHANGHAI, 16th July, 5.15 p.m.

Prince Chun landed in Shanghai to-day and proceeded in a chair, escorted by mounted Municipal Sikh Police and Chinese soldiers, through two miles of the British Settlement to the Taotai's foreign house in Bubbling Well Road. The Prince is very small and slight, pale and intelligent in face, with perfect manners. The streets were crowded with Chinese, and the Maloo or Nanking Road was decorated from beginning to end.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On the 15th inst. a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).

His EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C. (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. C. McI. MESSER (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Acting Director of Public Works).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. J. J. BELL IRVING.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. J. THURBURN.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

MEMBERS SWORN IN.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD and the Hon. J. THURBURN were sworn in on resuming their seats in the Council.

PAPERS.

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART laid on the table a number of papers, including the Supplementary Colonial Estimates for 1900, the Report of the Acting Postmaster General for 1900, Report of the Director of Public Works for 1900, Report of Registrar General for 1900, Report on the Land Court for 1900, Report on the Hongkong Volunteer Corps for 1900, Report of the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Surveyor, and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon for 1900, Report on the Po Leung Kuk Society for 1900, Returns of the Supreme Court for 1900, Returns of the Subordinate Court for 1900, Statement of Water Account for 1900, Report of Acting Harbour Master for 1900, and the Report of Inspector of Schools for 1900.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 26 to 43, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee. The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of proceedings of the Finance Committee at a meeting held on 23rd April, and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

SANITARY BYE-LAW.

The ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS moved that the sanitary bye-laws made under section 13, sub-section 16, of the Public Health Ordinance, 1901, be approved.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was carried.

CROWN LEASES.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to validate Crown leases heretofore made of foreshore and submerged lands within the territorial waters of the Colony for reclamation and other purposes, and to legalise and facilitate the making of such leases hereafter.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to Reformatory Schools.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

NATURALIZATION.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the naturalization of Lau Yat Ts'un, alias Lau Ng, alias Lau Man Kwong, alias Lau Ng Wo, alias Lau Hok Wai.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TRAMWAY.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for authorising the construction of a tramway within the Colony of Hongkong.

The Hon. J. J. BELL IRVING seconded, and the motion was carried.

STAMPS AND STAMP DUTY.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the laws relating to stamps and stamp duty in the Colony of Hongkong.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

CHARGES OF YEAR 1900.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum of five hundred and fifty-nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-one dollars and seventy-eight cents, to defray the charges of the year 1900.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding.

The CHAIRMAN said the first minute was one in which the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,000 in aid of the vote under the heading "Public Works, Annually Recurrent Expenditure" for the maintenance of buildings in New Territory. The Acting-Director of Public Works had reported to the Committee that the vote already passed in this connection was not sufficient. Of that vote \$901.40 had been expended on Cheung Chau Police Station and \$144.56 on Kowloon City Police Station, making a total sum of \$1045.96, and leaving less than \$500 for the whole of the other buildings. It had been estimated that an additional sum of \$1,000 was necessary to cover the whole of the expenditure.

The vote was agreed to.

In the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,235 as a grant-in-aid to the London Missionary Society for the buildings used for purposes of a school in the Training Home for Chinese girls.

The vote was agreed to.

In the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$4,000 for the erection of a public bath-house for the use of the Chinese.

The CHAIRMAN said—On 17th March last H.E. the Governor sent a minute in the following terms to the Sanitary Board—"I think it might have an important bearing on the health of the colony if two or three bath-houses could be supplied for the use of working coolies. Ask the Sanitary Board to advise us in the matter." The Sanitary Board has considered the question, and recommends the erection of a bath-house at \$4,000.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Where is the site?

ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—It is to the eastward of the Naval Hospital, between that and where the gasworks stand.

CHAIRMAN—It was selected by a sub-committee of the Sanitary Board consisting of the Acting Director of Public Works and the Medical Officer of Health.

In answer to another question, the ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS said the bath-house was to be a permanent one.

CHAIRMAN—If it should be successful, I am sure the Council will be ready to vote other sums for works of a similar nature.

The vote was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$950 to defray, during the current year, the salary of an additional accounting clerk in the Public Works Department:—

Salary for nine months from 1st April to 31st December, 1901, at \$100 per month \$900.00

Clerical assistance rendered during the month of March pending the appointment of the above mentioned Clerk ... 50.00

Total \$950.00

The vote was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said that in the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$80,000 in aid of the vote "Other Miscellaneous Services" under the heading "Miscellaneous Services." In this vote was included Financial Minute No. 36, regarding expenditure on account of the census.

The following statement was appended:—

VOTES.

Voted by 1901 Estimates \$10,000.00

Financial Minute No. 3 \$10,000.00

" " No. 5 200.00

" " No. 7 1,145.00

" " No. 9 5,829.82

" " No. 12 260.42

" " No. 13 235.00

" " No. 15 265.00

" " No. 15 2,943.60

Balance \$20,878.84

Balance 79,182.55

Balance \$100,061.39

EXPENDITURE.

Expenditure to June 30th—Plague \$25,386.88

" " Other 24,674.51

Expenditure \$50,061.39

Estimated plague expenditure:—

(i.) Sanitary Board for June ... 15,000.00

(ii.) " " July,

August and September ... 25,000.00

(iii.) Police (Special Police) and departments 5,000.00

Estimated for expenses other than plague to December 31st ... 5,000.00

Estimated for expenses other than plague to December 31st \$100,061.39

The vote was agreed to.

The Governor next recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$100 for the opening of a stores account under the heading "Public Works Extraordinary."

CHAIRMAN—This is purely a bookkeeping transaction. The amount should have appeared on the Estimates for 1901, but was omitted.

The vote was agreed to.

The Governor next recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$8,659.41 to meet the cost of laying a telegraph cable to Waglan Lighthouse.

ABSTRACT.

Joint Telegraph Company for supply-

ing and laying cable \$8,160.00

Yan Kung Cheung for labour, etc. ... 463.41

Incidental Expenses 36.00

Total \$8,659.41

CHAIRMAN—I am sure the honourable members will agree to this vote. This cable is a very desirable thing to have to facilitate the signalling of the approach of vessels from the North and East, and we were fortunate in having obtained the services of the telegraph ship belonging to the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, which passed through Hongkong last Christmas and which laid the cable. Otherwise the expenditure would have been considerably increased, and there would have been considerable delay.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Was it done by contract?

CHAIRMAN—It was done by the only ship available at the time. There was no question of contract about it. The Government is indebted to the Company for having placed their ship at its disposal.

The vote was agreed to.

In the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote Miscellaneous Works under the heading "Public Works, Annually Recurrent Expenditure" to meet the cost of increasing the height of the windows on the ground-floor of the Central Market in order to improve the natural lighting.

The CHAIRMAN—Complaints have been made that the Central Market is somewhat dark, and it is hoped by this improvement that more light will be obtained.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I think it will be a great improvement.

The vote was agreed to.

In the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$283.41, being amount due to the Crown Agents for expenses incurred in connection with the selection of the three lightkeepers for Waglan Island Lighthouse.

The CHAIRMAN—As the honourable members doubtless know, the Government recently took over the Waglan Lighthouse from the Chinese Government, and in order to maintain the Lighthouse properly it is necessary to have the services of three lighthouse-keepers. The sum in question was increased in connection with the obtaining of such services.

The vote was agreed to.

In the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$210 to defray, during the current year, the salary of an additional quartermaster and a seaman for the steam tender *Stanley* :—

Salary of Quartermaster from 1st June to 31st December, 1901, at \$16 per month,	\$112.00
Salary of Seaman from 1st June to 31st December, 1901, at \$14 per month,	98.00
Total.....	\$210.00

The CHAIRMAN—It has been found that the crew of the *Stanley* is not sufficient, and that an additional quartermaster and seaman are necessary.

The vote was agreed to.

In the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$7,120 for the erection of a derrick, &c., on a new site at Gap Rock :—

(1) Formation of site for new derrick, new path and improvement of site of existing derrick,	\$6,500.00
(2) Dock Company's tender for new jib for existing derrick and for removal of existing derrick to new site,	620.00
Total	\$7,120.00

The CHAIRMAN—Considerable difficulty has been experienced in the past in landing at Gap Rock, so I am informed by those whose duties call them there. It is hoped that by the erection of a new derrick at Gap Rock, landing will be facilitated. If the Committee recommend this vote the work will be put in hand without any delay.

The vote was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said the Government next recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$156 to cover the wages of two Chinese watchmen for Waglan Island Lighthouse from 16th June to 31st December, 1901 at \$12 per month each.

The CHAIRMAN—This is part of the staff found necessary for the maintenance of the Lighthouse.

The vote was agreed to.

In the next minute the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$6,000 to cover the cost of the improvement in lighting the approaches to the Harbour of Hongkong, during the current year.

The CHAIRMAN—Hon. members will recollect that some time ago this question was brought before the Council by the Hon. R. M. Gray, who has recently gone home, and a number of papers in connection with it were laid on the table. Since then the matter has been referred home, and the Government is now in a position to proceed with the work—a work which I understand the commercial community here regard as very desirable. I feel sure, therefore, that the Committee will be ready to recommend this vote. The scheme is to move D'Aguiar light to Green Island, and Green Island light to Collinson. The expenditure in connection with the carrying out of that work will be \$13,000. Of that sum, \$6,000 is now required, and will be expended this year. The other \$7,000 will be required early next year.

The vote was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said—The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$101.01 in aid of the vote for the construction of an armoury for the Police. Some time ago a vote was taken for the construction of this armoury, but it was found to be insufficient, and another vote is necessary to cover the expense.

The vote was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said that in the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$650 to cover the salary of an additional overseer for the Public Works Department from 16th June to 31st December, 1901, at \$10 per mensem.

The vote was agreed to.

In the next minute the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$4,760 to cover the cost of training and diverting the nullah in the vicinity of the Tram Station.

The CHAIRMAN—The Director of Public Works informs me that the diversion of this nullah will help to improve the neighbourhood, and render land available for building.

Hon. J. THURBURN—Where is it to be diverted to?

ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The course of the nullah is at present a very irregular one, and instead of allowing it to flow as now, it will be diverted underneath the tramway into the Albany Nullah. We need not disturb the tramway, as there is a bridge which the nullah can pass under.

The vote was agreed to.

The last minute was one in which the Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$200 in aid of the vote "Repairs to Epidemic Hulk *Hygieia*."

The vote was agreed to.

This was all the business; all the votes having been unanimously agreed to.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held in the Board Room, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, on Tuesday, the 9th July, 1901, at 4 p.m.—Present: Sir Thomas Jackson (Chairman), Mr. C. S. Sharp (Vice-Chairman), Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. A. Haupt, W. Poate, R. L. Richardson, H. A. Ritchie, N. A. Siebs, H. E. Tomkins, Hon. T. H. Whitehead (*ex officio*), and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous monthly meeting (held 11th June) were read and confirmed.

THE PROHIBITION OF IMMIGRATION FROM HONGKONG INTO STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

A letter was received from the Colonial Secretary, under date 20th June, in reply to the Chamber's letter of the 6th idem, stating that H. E. the Governor, after first appealing to the Government of the Straits Settlements, had approached the Secretary of State for the Colonies with the request that the prohibition against coolie immigration might be relaxed, and received a reply, on the 18th June, to the effect that, in view of the serious character of the epidemic, it was considered better that the prohibition should remain until the views of the Governor of the Straits Settlements had been considered.

On the 24th June receipt of this letter was acknowledged and the thanks of the Committee tendered to H.E. the Governor for the prompt action taken in the matter, which, it was hoped, would result in the eventual withdrawal of the prohibition.

Copies of the Government's letter of the 20th June were forwarded, with a covering letter, to all the firms who signed the letter of the 3rd June requesting the Chamber to take up the question.

THE VENICE CONVENTION AND THE DEPARTURE OF SICK CHINESE FROM HONGKONG.

The CHAIRMAN said that the deputation, consisting of Messrs. Ritchie, Poate, and himself, waited on the Governor on the 27th June to lay the views of the Committee on the question of permitting sick Chinese to go to their homes on the mainland. They found His Excellency quite in sympathy with them on the subject, and he informed them that he had that day despatched the following telegram to the Secretary of State for the Colonies :—

TELEGRAM FROM GOVERNOR TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

26th June.

"Referring to my telegrams of 30th May and 14th June, unofficial members of Council request me to transmit following telegram :— 'We support appeal from Chinese and from Viceroy applying for permission for plague

patients leaving colony and returning home. Venice Convention did not contemplate such circumstances as these. Majority of Hongkong Chinese have homes and families in neighbouring provinces, where they go when sick. Prohibition irritates people, producing no effect. Persons suffering from plague leave before the disease is apparent, whilst thousands healthy people had already left for fear of detention if taken ill. It is estimated that one-third population had already left. If prohibition is still adhered to, epidemic does not abate, exodus likely to continue. Business injured; local industries virtually stopped. Attorney General advises that Venice Convention not binding on colony."

In consequence of their representations the Governor sent the following additional message to the Secretary of State on the 28th June :— "Referring to my telegram of yesterday, deputation of Chamber of Commerce has just waited upon me with similar request and emphasize fact that Venice Convention is not in force in Hongkong." Probably nothing would be done now, as the plague was waning rapidly, but he thought their representations would have a good effect for the future.

THE SANITATION OF THE COLONY.

A letter having been received on the 13th June from the Colonial Secretary, in reply to the Chamber's letter of the 7th idem on the above subject, in the course of which it was assumed that the committee had hastily accepted reckless and exaggerated statements that had appeared from time to time in the public Press.

It was decided to reply and express the Chamber's regret at finding the Governor took exception to the attitude adopted by the Committee, to assure His Excellency that their action was not dictated by any spirit of carping criticism, but was animated by a sincere desire to strengthen the hands of the Government. Also to point out that there was nothing in the Chamber's letter to justify the assumption by H.E. that the Committee believed in the truth of any "exaggerated statements." This letter was despatched on the 24th June.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary, dated 6th July, in reply to the above.

After an expression of opinion that the last paragraph dealing with the death rate of Hongkong was based on an entirely mistaken calculation, since the population of the Colony is of a constantly shifting character and is mainly composed of male adults who in most cases go home to die, and could not therefore be compared with the death rate of cities of the United Kingdom,

It was decided to publish the correspondence.

THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PASSENGERS.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary, dated 3rd July, transmitting copy of a letter from Dr. Swan, Acting Health Officer of the Port, in which he traversed the statements made in Mr. Ritchie's letter to the Chamber on the above subject.

Also read rejoinder from Mr. Ritchie rebutting the statements made by Dr. Swan, and enclosing letters from Capt. Vibert, commander of the s.s. "*Cromandel*," and from Capt. Denny, of the s.s. "*Ballaarat*," in support of and confirming the details given by him in his letter of the 17th May.

It was decided to forward copies of these letters to the Government with a covering letter in reply, but not to publish the correspondence on account of its length.

QUARANTINE.

Read letters from Government, dated 26th June, 1st July, and 8th July, announcing, respectively, the imposition of quarantine at Weihaiwei for ten days on arrivals from Hongkong; of the imposition of quarantine at Foochow on arrivals from Hongkong, Swatow and Amoy; and stating that though there were still cases of plague at Foochow city, Pagoda Anchorage is now free from the disease.

THE TARIFF QUESTION AND THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

Read letter, dated 17th May, from the London Chamber of Commerce forwarding copy of letters received from the Foreign Office to the effect that the question of the increase of the Customs Tariff in China as a means of raising the funds required for payment of the indemnities was receiving careful consideration at the hands of His Majesty's Government.

The CHAIRMAN thought this called for no comment.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

A letter having been addressed to the Secretary by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead enclosing copy of a letter addressed by him to H.E. the Governor, under date 8th July, suggesting that as Mr. R. D. Ormsby, Director of Public Works, has retired, or is about to retire, on pension, His Excellency should telegraph to the Secretary of State "urging the imperative necessity of securing a really competent man" for the post, and asking the Chamber for their concurrence and support in making this recommendation.

The matter was brought up for consideration.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD asked the Secretary if he had received a further letter enclosing copy of H.E. the Governor's reply and of two resolutions which he had sent to the Chamber at 3 p.m. that day, which resolutions he would like to submit at a subsequent meeting of Committee when Mr. Ormsby's retirement had become officially known.

The SECRETARY—No, I left the Chamber at ten minutes to 4 o'clock and your letter had not arrived then. The messenger must have lagged on the way.

Mr. WHITEHEAD—Well, in that letter I enclosed copy of the Governor's reply, and as it stated that he was not aware Mr. Ormsby had retired, I ask leave to postpone consideration of this question until next monthly meeting or until Mr. Ormsby's resignation is officially known.

The CHAIRMAN—I don't see how we can do that, Mr. Whitehead. The Committee have made up their minds on the subject and we wish to close it now.

Mr. WHITEHEAD urged the great importance of the appointment to the colony generally, and in the interests of the trade and the shipping of the port the Colonial Office, through the Colonial Government and the London Chamber of Commerce, should be urged to select and appoint a thoroughly experienced officer of considerable professional standing. He was sure he could convince the Committee that the question was well within the objects and reasons of the Chamber's existence—see No. 2 of the Rules and Regulations. It was one that would be taken up readily by the London Chamber of Commerce, the trade and shipping having suffered serious loss annually for the last seven years through the insanitary condition of Hongkong. The Director of Public Works was responsible for the drainage and sanitation of the city.

The CHAIRMAN then suggested that the minutes of the Committee on the question should be read.

This was done, and after

Mr. WHITEHEAD had again urged the matter was a fitting one for the Chamber to take up. The question was put to the vote, when the Committee unanimously decided that the question was not one on which the Chamber could express an opinion, it being outside their province, but in the event of the Government applying to them they would then express an opinion to the best of their ability.

DIFFICULTY AND COST OF PROCURING BALLAST.

The difficulty now experienced by agents of ships in procuring sand or stone ballast was brought before the Committee and considered. They were informed that not only has the cost of obtaining this ballast increased by more than 100 per cent. but a practical royalty of 6 cents per ton has been imposed by the Government. In addition, there seems to be a delay in getting a permit, and this is aggravated by junks being compelled to proceed to places where the supply is limited and scattered.

It was decided to address the Government on this question, as steamers have sometimes, after waiting some time, been compelled to leave port without the ballast.

This concluded the business.

The following is the correspondence referred to at the meeting:—

PROHIBITION OF IMMIGRATION FROM HONGKONG.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 24th June, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter (No. 1,476) of the 20th inst., in

reply to the Chamber's communication of the 5th idem in reference to the prohibition by the Government of the Straits Settlements against coolie immigration from Hongkong.

I am now directed to ask you to convey to His Excellency the Governor the thanks of the Committee for taking up the question with such decision and promptitude, and to express the hope that the ultimate result of his action will be the withdrawal of the prohibition against immigration.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY.

THE SANITATION OF THE COLONY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong, 13th June, 1901.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, and to inform you that His Excellency the Governor joins with the Chamber of Commerce in the regret that here, as in India, the anxious efforts of the Government have failed to control Bubonic Plague, or to materially check its ravages.

As to the various matters on which the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce have been good enough to give their views, they have long been subjects of most anxious consideration by those whose professional knowledge and experience best fitted them to advise upon them, and some have been dealt with by the Legislative Council. His Excellency would suggest that as the Chamber of Commerce is directly represented in the Council, it should request its representative to bring its views before that body, where the grounds for assumptions which appear to have been somewhat hastily adopted may be clearly stated and fully answered. His Excellency instructs me to add that nothing could more contribute to the commercial losses pointed out in the 4th paragraph of the letter than reckless statements, some untrue, and others greatly exaggerated, that have appeared from time to time in the public Press; and the apparent acceptance of these statements by the Members of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce without investigation or adequate knowledge, is not calculated to allay fears that, if continued, may permanently affect the prosperity of this colony, dependent as it is upon the business incidental to a great shipping port of call. The Governor observes with satisfaction that the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce are prepared to accept cheerfully the increased taxation that will probably be necessary to meet the heavy expenses of contemplated measures for the general improvement of sanitation.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Ag. Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY,
Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 24th June, 1901.

SIR,

I beg leave to acknowledge receipt of your letter (No. 1,400) of the 13th inst. In doing so I am directed to express the Chamber's regret at finding from its tone that His Excellency took some exception to the attitude adopted by the Committee in their letter of the 7th inst.

I am instructed to ask you to convey to His Excellency the assurance of the Committee that their action was not dictated by any spirit of carping criticism, but arose out of sincere desire to strengthen the hands of the Government and assist in combating the present serious visitation of plague.

The Chamber do not wish me to enter into controversy, but they wish to put themselves right on one point.

It was stated in your letter that the Chamber had accepted without investigation certain statements made in the local Press and described by you as reckless.

In reply to this statement, I beg to point out that no reference to statements made in the local Press appeared in my letter; the references there given were taken from the

public utterances or reports of Government officials and of an expert employed by the Colonial Office to inquire into the sanitation of the colony. Nor was there anything, in the opinion of the Committee, to justify the assumption on the part of His Excellency the Governor that the members of the Chamber believed in the truth of any "exaggerated statements." On this, however, I will not dwell, for, as stated above, I am instructed to avoid even the appearance of wishing to prolong a quite useless controversy.

In addressing the Government on this subject of sanitation in the first instance, the Chamber had not then, nor has it now, any other object in view than to expedite reform in the sanitary condition of the colony, and they therefore take this opportunity of expressing gratification at the information contained in the last paragraph of your letter, viz., that important measures having this for their object were being contemplated by the Colonial Authorities. The Committee would further add that in bringing forward any such measures, the Government may rest assured of the loyal support and co-operation of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong, 6th July, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th, ultimo, and to inform you that His Excellency the Governor accepts unreservedly the statement contained in the second paragraph of your letter under reply.

His Excellency has further directed that a full report on the Sanitary measures taken since the date of Mr. Chadwick's report of 1882 shall be prepared. This report, it is expected, will show that many hundreds of thousands of dollars have been expended in carrying out the recommendations of Mr. Chadwick's report. When prepared, the information will be made public.

In the first letter of the Chamber of Commerce it is assumed that the drainage system adopted on Mr. Chadwick's recommendation is faulty and that the late epidemic of plague now happily disappearing was due in some measure to defective drainage and general insanitary conditions existing in the city. This is a very important question, on which His Excellency does not feel himself competent to form an opinion based upon any valid grounds that have come under the notice of this Government. If it be so, however large an expenditure may be necessary, it must be faced, and all other projects must yield to imperative Sanitary improvements as of primary importance. His Excellency has requested the Secretary of State for the Colonies to obtain the services of an expert in drainage and sanitation to visit and report upon the sanitary condition of Hongkong, and until such report has been made His Excellency suggests that it may be well to suspend judgment in the matter.

At the same time it should not be forgotten that even at the height of the epidemic the death-rate of Hongkong was less than that of other Eastern colonies, and eliminating deaths from plague, it is less than that of many cities of Great Britain and Ireland.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY,

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

MEDICAL INSPECTOR OF PASSENGERS.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 13th July, 1901.

SIR,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter (No. 1,807) of the 2nd inst., transmitting, for the information of my Committee, copy of a letter from the Acting Health Officer of the Port.

This letter, which dealt with certain statements made by Mr. Ritchie, was submitted to

that gentleman, without delay, for reply, and on their monthly meeting held on the 9th inst., the Committee considered the whole correspondence, and decided to forward a copy of Mr. Ritchie's rejoinder to Dr. Swan's statements to you for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

The Committee are of opinion that Dr. Swan has himself contributed, during this controversy, in no small degree to show the necessity that exists for the office of Health Officer being held by an official who is able to devote the whole of his time to the duties of the post. They accordingly respectfully beg now to suggest the desirability of (1) increasing the emoluments of this post, (2) of disallowing private practice to its incumbent except in the harbour; and (3) they would further recommend the appointment of a junior practitioner to be Assistant Health Officer, and the employment of another steam-launch to the favourable consideration of His Excellency.

The work has greatly increased of late years, and it frequently happens that vessels enter the harbour from both ends simultaneously. In order to prevent undue detention of ships, it is necessary that two officers be maintained. The revenue derived from the shipping will amply serve to defray the small additional cost involved in this change, the amount collected in 1900 for permits to work cargo on Sundays alone amounting to \$43,550, or an increase over that of the previous year of \$21,725.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DIFFICULTY AND COST OF PROCURING BALLAST.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 12th July, 1901.

SIR,

I am instructed to draw the attention of the Government to the hardship entailed on shipping by the difficulties placed in the way of vessels requiring sand or stone ballast, which are now so serious that they are either put to great and entirely needless expense or compelled to clear without ballast on account of the delay experienced.

Under the present system, application has to be made to the Public Works Department for a permit, and frequently a considerable time elapses before this is obtained and the stevedore receives authority to load ballast at some out of the way place where stones are scattered and scarce. Junks are then sent to this spot to collect the ballast, and as a rule from date of application fully four days pass before it can be placed on board. A practical royalty of six cents per ton is charged by the Government, and, owing to the remoteness of the beaches prescribed in the permit, the cost of loading has advanced from 40 to 60 cents to about \$1.40 per ton. The loss caused by detention of the vessel is of course still more serious, and entails positive loss and grave inconvenience on the shipping interest.

As an example of what takes place, I may mention the case of the troopship *H. H. Meier* in March last. Although application was made to the Public Works Department on the 7th of that month, the agents were unable to get a permit to load ballast in time, though the steamer did not arrive until the 12th, and eventually she had to leave on the 14th idem without ballast.

The Committee respectfully submit to His Excellency the Governor that in matters relating to shipping time is necessarily of first importance, the loss by demurrage being very heavy. In a harbour of first class importance everything possible should be done to facilitate the movements of shipping both in order to protect the interests of trade and to maintain the reputation of the port for freedom from obstruction as well as from duties. My Committee would therefore venture to suggest, in the interests of the port and the colony, that the Government should frame some regulations rendering it easy to obtain ballast and sand from places near the harbour at a reasonable cost and without any delay. Taking into consideration the fact that there is no lack either of stone or in the colony,

there should be no difficulty in selecting suitable spots for the purpose.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.

THE TARIFF QUESTION AND THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

London Chamber of Commerce,
Botolph House, Eastcheap,
London, E.C., 17th May, 1901.

DEAR SIR,

CHINESE INDEMNITY.

With reference to your telegram of the 3rd instant, on the above matter, which was duly communicated to His Majesty's Government through the Foreign Office, as well as a similar message received from the Shanghai Chamber a few days later, I now have the pleasure to forward for your information copy of letters received from the Foreign Office, which are self explanatory, and which I trust you will regard as satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

KENRIC B. MURRAY,
Secretary.

Sir THOMAS JACKSON,
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong.

(Enclosure.)

Foreign Office,
May 8th, 1901.

SIR,

I am directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, enclosing a telegram from the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce protesting against an unconditional increase of the Customs tariff in China as a means of raising the funds required for payment of the Indemnities.

I am to state that the question has received and is receiving careful consideration by His Majesty's Government.

The telegram is returned herewith.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

F. H. VILLIERS.

KENRIC B. MURRAY, Esq.,
London Chamber of Commerce,
Botolph House, Eastcheap, E.C.

(Enclosure.)

Foreign Office,
16th May, 1901.

SIR,

I am directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, transmitting a copy of a telegram from the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce protesting against the immediate and unconditional increase of the Chinese Customs Tariff as a means of raising funds for the payment of the Indemnities claimed by the Powers.

In reply, I am to refer you to my letter of the 8th instant, in which you were informed that this question had already engaged the careful attention of His Majesty's Government.

I am to add that His Majesty's Government are fully alive to the importance of the considerations urged in the telegram.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

FRANCIS BERTIE.

KENRIC B. MURRAY, Esq.,
London Chamber of Commerce,
Botolph House, Eastcheap, E.C.

An Adelaide telegram of the 26th ult. says that General Chaffee, the commander of the American forces acting in China during the late crisis, has furnished the authorities at Washington with a report in which he "substantiates the charges which have been made against the allied troops of having been guilty of the most inexcusable and horrible barbarities in their treatment of innocent Chinese, looting and shooting indiscriminately, and acting generally more like savages than the representatives of civilized Powers." We suppose, however, that those who have (without having been on the spot) denied the atrocities will still continue to disregard all evidence.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR NEAR AMOY.

More than a month ago Messrs. Jebson & Co., of this colony, despatched, under command of Captain Koch, the steam-launch *Kiautschau* to Taingtao. The launch had been purchased by Messrs. Jebson & Co. for the Kiaochau Lighter Co., and was to be used for towing purposes. She had 30 tons of coal aboard, 7 tons of water, and a crew of eight Chinese.

A month passed, and the launch failed to arrive at Kiaochau, nor could any tidings of its whereabouts be gleaned. On the 14th inst. the s.s. *Daigi Maru* brought two Chinese, one an engineer, the other a seaman, to Hongkong. They were apparently the only survivors of the missing launch, which, according to the rescued men's story, was lost by fire three miles off Dod Island Lighthouse, Captain Koch and the other six men being in all probability drowned.

The survivors' story, while clearing up uncertainty as to the fate of the launch, envelops the disaster in yet a deeper mystery. One of them states that, about 9 p.m. on Sunday, the 30th ult., he heard cries of "Fire." He at once ran on deck and found a fierce fire raging in a compartment filled with coal and engine oil. How the fire broke out he did not know. It was probable that the lamp hanging up above the coal exploded and so set fire to coal and oil.

The captain at once ordered water to be thrown on the blazing mass, but without avail. Finding all efforts to extinguish the conflagration useless, he at once steered at full steam directly for the coast. Things went on without any visible change for fifteen minutes, when it was found impossible to steer any longer, the heat being so great that no one could stand at the wheel. The captain and four men were standing at the bow, the rest of the crew at the stern. The fire being amidships, it was impossible for the two parties to unite. About three miles off Dod Island Lighthouse the captain jumped overboard and the men followed him. As the life-belts were amidships they were unable to obtain any.

The two survivors saw nothing more of the captain or the rest of the crew, though they saw the launch go down. They were picked up by a junk, and later transferred to the *Daigi Maru*. After returning on that vessel to the scene of the disaster and searching for some signs of the captain and crew, but finding absolutely nothing, they were brought down to this port.

We are informed that the German Consul has written to Amoy to make minute enquiries into the disaster and to find some trace of Captain Koch. No reply has been received as yet. It is curious that the burning of the launch at night should not have attracted attention at Amoy, close to which place is the Dod Island Lighthouse, which was, according to the story of the survivors, only three miles from the burning launch.

The following appointments were made last month at the Admiralty:—Commander: R. Nugent, to the *Pembroke*, to date June 20, and to the *Albion*, on commissioning, to date June 25, and to the *Barfleur* (N.), undated. Lieutenants: V. B. Molteno (1st and G.), A. De K. L. May (T.), J. Man, W. B. Drury, H. J. Tweedie, and H. L. Boyle, to the *Albion*, to date June 25; E. B. Kiddle, to the *Albion* (N.), undated. Midshipmen: H. M. Garrett, W. S. Hargreaves, R. Wigglesworth, E. J. F. Tisdall, W. U. H. Parry-O'Keen, the Hon. E. R. Drummond, N. St. J. S. Nicholl-Carne, T. G. Carter, C. W. Craven, and R. Crosbie-Hill, to the *Albion*, to date June 25; S. Hopkins, H. P. Wilson, and R. B. Ramsay, to the *Albion*, undated. Fleet Engineer: H. J. Rampling, to the *Albion*, to date June 25. Engineers: A. E. Drought and A. G. V. Salter, to the *Albion*, to date June 25. Assistant Engineers: C. Wain, J. K. Kirwin, T. E. Hughes, and A. E. E. Rayner, to the *Albion*, to date June 25. Captain W. W. Hewett, to the *Albion*, to date June 25. Commanders: H. W. James, to the *Albion*, to date June 25; W. Carey, to the *Algerine*, in command, to date June 27. Naval Instructor G. V. Rayment, B.A., to the *Cressy*, to date June 21.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS.

The report of the Inspector of Schools, for the year 1900, is published in the *Gazette*. We make the following extracts:—

GENERAL STATISTICS.—Compared with the year 1899 there is, except in the Government English schools and in the Grant-in-Aid Portuguese schools, a decrease in the enrolment in each class of school. In the case of the English Grant-in-Aid schools this may be accounted for by some schools, hitherto free, charging fees. In the case of the Chinese schools it is partly due to an actual decrease in the number of schools at work during the year, as although there is a nominal increase of one on the roll of Grant-in-Aid schools there is an increase of nine in the number of schools temporarily closed. The following tables enable a more detailed comparison to be drawn between the year 1890, the year 1893—the last normal year, as the statistics for every year since have been affected by the plague—and 1900.

1890.				
Government and Grant-in-Aid Schools.				
	Chinese.		English.	
	Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.
Victoria	51	3,140	15	2,489
Villages of H'kong	19	484	3	189
Kowloon	16	487	1	38
Total	86	4,111	19	2,716
Portuguese.				
	Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.
Victoria	4	280	70	5,909
Villages of H'kong	...	...	22	673
Kowloon	...	...	17	525
Total	4	230	109	7,107

1893.				
Government and Grant-in-Aid Schools.				
	Chinese.		English.	
	Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.
Victoria	68	4,034	20	3,014
Villages of H'kong	10	273	2	114
Kowloon	21	932	1	53
Total	99	5,239	23	3,181
Portuguese.				
	Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.
Victoria	4	186	92	7,204
Villages of H'kong	...	...	12	387
Kowloon	...	...	22	985
Total	4	186	126	8,606

1900.				
Government and Grant-in-Aid Schools.				
	Chinese.		English.	
	Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.
Victoria	49	2,959	23	3,005
Villages of H'kong	18	723	1	72
Kowloon	14	486	1	70
Total	81	4,178	25	3,147
Portuguese.				
	Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.
Victoria	4	161	76	6,125
Villages of H'kong	...	...	19	800
Kowloon	...	...	15	556
Total	4	161	110	7,481

A comparison between the two years 1890 and 1900 shows a decrease of 5 in the number of Chinese Schools and an increase of 62 in the number of scholars in attendance at them. There is an actual decrease under every head except that of the number of scholars in the Hongkong Village Schools. The increase under the latter head is due to the closing of Government Schools in small isolated villages and the opening of Grant-in-Aid Schools in the larger villages. Thus in 1890 there were three schools in Shauiwan with an enrolment of 147 scholars, in 1900 five schools with an enrolment of 244. The decrease in the number of English Schools in the Hongkong villages is caused by the closing of the Government English Schools at Stanley and Shauiwan. The decrease in the number of scholars attending Portuguese Schools deserves notice. With 1893 of course 1900 compares still worse. There is a decrease under every head except in the number of English Schools and in the number of schools in the villages of Hongkong. In 1892 a number of Government village schools were closed and in the following year the Grant-in-Aid Schools which ultimately took their place had not been opened. The free Chinese Schools in Victoria have been very adversely affected by the general rise in rents. There is a demand for more Chinese Schools in the Kowloon Peninsula, and unless it is met by the Managers of Grant-in-Aid Schools it will

be the duty of the Government to undertake the work.

The subjoined table shows the present position of the unaided schools for Chinese (Kai-fong Schools) compared with their position in 1893.

Unaided Schools for Chinese.				
	1893.		1900.	
	Schools.	Scholars.	Schools.	Scholars.
Victoria	110	2,039	104	1,934
Villages of H'kong	17	252	7	131
Kowloon	17	315	15	379
Total	144	2,596	126	2,444

The schools in Victoria have maintained their position very well, and the only way I can account for the loss under "Villages of Hongkong" is by the increase in Grant-in-Aid Schools there during the last seven years. In future care should be taken that the Grant-in-Aid Schools do not interfere unduly with these Unaided Schools, and the masters of the latter schools should be encouraged to report cases where their pupils have been attracted from them by the opening of Free Grant-in-Aid Schools.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.—The average daily attendance in 1900 was 4,630. That in Grant-in-Aid Schools alone was 3,871. The corresponding figures for 1899 are 4,418 and 3,683, and for 1890, 5,105 and 3,373.

I cannot find any very clear evidence of attendance having been affected by the report which was current towards the end of May that a child was to be sacrificed to strengthen the foundations of a railway bridge. The scare was only partial and very soon passed away, but not before it culminated in a serious commotion at Aberdeen on the night of the 31st May, when the boats in harbour fired off their guns under the impression that an attempt was to be made to carry off their children. It is satisfactory to learn that the influence of the Sisters on the children attending their school at Aberdeen was so great that the children instead of absenting themselves from school went there for protection. I visited Aplichau and Stanley one or two days after the disturbance. At Aplichau the attendance was a little below normal. One girl who returned to afternoon school when I was there did not dare to come further than the top of the staircase, and when some allusion was made by the mistress in conversation with me to the rumour she ran off again. At Stanley the boys attended school, but most of the girls were absent.

RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION.—I reported fully on the results of the examinations of Government District Schools in my letter No. 27 of the 5th March.

In 1900 there were 136 scholars, examined in the three highest standards of the Grant-in-Aid Schools in class III compared with 155 in 1899. But as the total number examined was only 938 as against 1,166 in 1899, there is relatively no falling off.

BELILIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL.—The Head-mistress, Mrs. Bateman, returned from 19 months' leave in October. The annual examination of the school was held on the 18th, 19th and 20th July, and my report on it will be found in Letter No. 61 of the 7th August. There were 155 scholars present in the English Division as against 99 in the previous year. Of these, 53 were in the Upper School and 102 in the Infant School. The corresponding figures for 1899 were 50 and 49. Out of 194 scholars on the register 33 were British or Americans and 65 were Chinese. There were 39 Eurasians. Miss Long, the senior pupil teacher, resigned her post at the end of November, and the Head-mistress reports that after asking several of the former pupils of the school to undertake the duties she could meet with no success, until Miss Chun Yut as a personal favour consented to take charge of the classes until such time as a teacher could be found to take the position permanently. So far no one has been found and the prospect of finding anyone seems as far off as ever. The examination of the Chinese Division was held in October, a more suitable time for judging the work done during the year than July. The number examined was 128 compared with 87 in the previous year.

GOVERNMENT DISTRICT SCHOOLS.—The number of schools remains the same. The average daily attendance at the Chinese School was 274 and at the English 484 compared with 249 and 484 respectively in 1899. The work in the English Schools was interfered with by

changes in the teaching staff. The attendance at the Yaumati Government School has doubled, and will no doubt continue to increase. The erection of a school building, the need for which was referred to in my last report, has been sanctioned. The system of partial payment by results has worked most satisfactorily, and there is a very marked improvement in those schools in which it is in force.

GRANT-IN-AID SCHOOLS.—The number of schools on the rolls is 97 compared with 96 in 1899. The following schools were closed during the year:—1. The Roman Catholic Mission Nova Escola Portuguesa, a School for Portuguese children. 2. The London Missionary Society Kau-i-fong, girls' school for Chinese (Class I). 3. The Victoria English School for girls (Class III).

The following new schools have been opened:—1. The Church Missionary Kau-i-fong, girls' school for Chinese (Class I). 2. The London Missionary Training Home for girls, a school in Class II for giving an European education in Chinese. 3. The French Convent School, a school of very old standing for European girls. 4. The Diocesan Girls' School, a Church of England School, principally for Eurasian girls.

The schools formerly maintained by the Female Education Society have now passed under the management of the Church Missionary Society. Out of the 97 schools on the roll only 80 were examined. Of the remaining 17, 2 were dispersed before the date of examination; the premises occupied by them became unsafe for habitation, and they were unable to find new quarters. Eight of the others are closed owing to difficulty in procuring teachers; another is closed pending the erection of a permanent school building, and the others are unable to find suitable quarters. A special grant equal to 30 per cent. of the rent is now made to schools occupying leased premises and will, I hope, afford the free Chinese Schools in Victoria some relief, but rents are rising with such extraordinary rapidity that I question whether this extra grant will induce teachers to re-open the schools which have been closed. Landlords are averse to leasing their premises for longer periods than a month, and teachers are chary of incurring an expenditure from which no return can be expected till the end of the year. It is only the other day that the reply of a landlord to an application from the manager of a Grant-in-Aid School for a year's lease was one month's notice to quit, and the result is that a useful little girls' school has disappeared. All landlords are not like that, and I am pleased to be able to report an instance of a landlord foregoing a large increase in rent in order to enable a school to continue its work till the end of the year and thus earn the Government Grant.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 16th July.

THE FRENCH FETE DAY.

On the 14th inst. the anniversary *fête* in the French concession on Shameen was quite a success. In the forenoon there was a reception in the French Consulate, and the gunboats opposite the Bund were gaily dressed in bunting. At noon a salute of twenty-one guns was fired from the French men-of-war. At night the Bund along the French Concession and the garden were beautifully illuminated with coloured Japanese lanterns; some public buildings and private houses were also illuminated, and flew the tricolour during the day. The fireworks were very nice, being especially made to order from the districts of Tungkun and Sheklung, the best ever displayed in Canton. The Portuguese Amateur Band, under the leadership of Maestro V. Senna, was also in attendance discoursing some very good music, while refreshments were served out free. This time the flowerboats, to the number of from 40 to 50, anchoring in a line along the east of the Bund were not disappointed, and the occupants showed that they were also enjoying the fun very much by making loud exclamations and letting off squibs. On account of a shower of rain and the late hour the fireworks were discontinued, but were displayed again the following night.

There are many proofs that we are at last in a transition stage, and that the Chinese are about to renew the civil administration of much of Chihli. Already Peking is in part under native police, and the refugee officials are now to be met on all hands. This week in Tientsin, I have seen General Mei and the territorial Taotai going around making official calls. Their rag-tag and bob-tail following is pro-

vocative of the greatest wonder among the foreign soldiery; this is not surprising when they see a brave riding under an umbrella or keeping guard with a minute one-cent fan.

It is a highly contentious point whether Tientsin will come under native jurisdiction or will remain under the ever improving rule of the Provisional Government. I verily believe that if a plebiscite could be taken, the people would vote for the continuation of the P.G. Now that it has experience as well as honesty of intention, it is doing remarkably well. During the last seven months it has improved the city of Tientsin out of all recognition and has done more than the Chinese would have accomplished in as many centuries. At the present moment its energy is largely directed on that widespread organisation of thieves which has fattened like a vampire on the trade of the Port for thirty years and which has reduced river piracy to a fine art. The Provisional Government is also about to make an interesting experiment in the way of opening something like a free library in the city, and I for one should not be surprised to see it attacking the education question shortly.

RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

The Ministers are busy putting the final touches to the schemes for effective river conservancy in Tientsin and Shanghai. They are to be embodied in the treaty of peace. Our Tientsin scheme is practically a going concern; the organisation and finance have been agreed to in principle, and only one or two details have to be settled. The first Commissioners are General Wogack, representing the Provisional Government, Mr. L. H. Hopkins, representing the Consular Body, and Mr. G. Detting, the Commissioner of Customs; to these is added a consultative body, which will later on have co-administrative power and which is formed of nominees of the Chamber of Commerce, the Municipalities and the Shipping Companies. The constitution of the Conservancy is open to criticism, but everybody concerned has shown fine self-repression in withholding this last delay should be caused in the all important matter of getting to work. The great outtings will be begun the day the rainy season ends. The Provisional Government is to find the funds for the first instalment of the work—Tls. 250,000.

THE ALLIED VILLAGERS.

The Allied Village system, of which we are now hearing so much, is somewhat obscure in its origin, its aims and its work; as far as we can make out it is a sort of Cave-of-Adullam movement, very catholic in the spirit with which it includes all who will refuse to be sat upon and to pay new or extra taxes. In some cases it seems to be pro-Boxer, in others anti; but in all its proximate object is self-protection from the impositions of everybody—officials, foreigners, robbers, &c. It owes much of its success hitherto to the remarkable example set in Chihli last summer, when the Fathers in several places set about the fortification of the villages and by their skill and the stout hearts of their converts defied the Boxer power indefinitely. The Chihli peasant seems to have risen to the idea "if one village could do this, a *fortiori* can a whole series of villages do better still," but there is one element of the problem with which they have not reckoned and which I fear will make short work of their resistance, viz., artillery.

THE TIENSIN ANNIVERSARY.

We have been busy socially commemorating the great delivery of last year. The ladies did some very gracious and kindly work in tending the graves of our two hundred odd fallen heroes. Then there was a banquet in Gordon Hall, with Consul Zimmermann in the chair (in the absence of Major-General Wogack); this was followed by a huge garden party in Victoria Park at night, when a bombardment of amimio Gordon Hall took place in which a lot of dummy Boxers met the fate they meant for us. Lastly on July 14th the children are to have their own little commemoration by a picnic at the Race-course. Although the *fetes* were a success, a goodly number abstained from them on the ground that the time has hardly yet come for rejoicing and celebration.

MR. MARSH'S CONCERTS.

Under the auspices and leadership of Mr. Alec Marsh we have had two brilliant concerts

in which musical high-water mark has been reached. The brilliant baritone has been much impressed with the high level of musical culture among Tientsin amateurs.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Sandakan, 13th July.

INSUFFICIENT WHARFAGE.

The rebuilding of the Sandakan Wharf, or rather the patching up of the old wharf, has at last been started, and is proceeding apace. One needs, however, to be a Government official to be at all elated over the work, for not only is the wharf not being carried out into deeper water, but in spite of the wide notoriety that Sandakan has got for lack of wharf space it is not intended to extend it at all at this time. As regards the lack of water at low tide here, it may not be generally known but the *Sandakan* and the *Mantang* frequently take the sand at low water when they are deeply laden, as on the eve of departure for Hongkong. As to the wharfage being quite insufficient, this is practically demonstrated so very frequently, and the fact is so widely known, that there is no need to go into any details. It was hoped the new Governor would at least do something in this vitally important matter, but it does not look like it, more's the pity.

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 4th July.

INAUGURATION OF THE FIRST CIVIL GOVERNOR.

This morning at nine o'clock the Hon. William H. Taft, President of the Philippine Commission, took the oath of office, and became the first Civil Governor of the Islands. The ceremony was brief and simple, but impressive. It was performed in a tribune erected on the granite foundations of the projected Spanish government building, on the west side of the Ayuntamiento Plaza. It faced the headquarters, and is one of the prettiest spots in the city. The central portion of the tribune accommodated about two hundred persons, members of the Consular Corps, the Commission, and officers of the army and navy. Each of the wings was well filled with officials and civilians and their families. Those who were not fortunate enough to receive tickets of admission occupied the street and grass-plots of the plaza. A few minutes before nine o'clock President Taft and the Commission, accompanied by Generals McArthur and Chaffee and their respective staffs and the senior naval officers walked from the Ayuntamiento to the tribune and took their seats, while the bands played a lively march. General McArthur introduced Mr. Taft in a few brief remarks, saying: "Following the orders of the President of the United States, it becomes my duty to transfer certain of the civil functions, which have heretofore been exercised by the military authorities, to the Hon. Wm. H. Taft, the first Civil Governor of the Philippine Islands. It now but remains for him to take the oath of office, which the Chief Justice will administer." Chief Justice Arellano raised his right hand and read the oath in Spanish, which was translated into English by Mr. Arthur Ferguson, the Secretary of the Commission, and the new Governor answered "I do" in a loud voice. It was all over, except the reading of the inaugural address. As the Chief Justice lowered his hand, the guests in the tribune began the cheering, which was taken up by the crowd and vastly increased while the *Malecon* battery fired the salute of seventeen guns and the bands played "Hail to the Chief."

GOVERNOR TAFT'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

When the applause subsided, Governor Taft began the delivery of his inaugural address, which possessed the happy characteristics of his other public utterances in being honest, concise, and to the point. There was no flowery language or attempt at oratory, but it briefly reviewed past conditions in military and civil affairs and looked hopefully into the future. In the beginning he made the announcement that on September next Dr. Pardo T. H. Tavera, Señores José Luzuriaga and Benito Legarda would be

added to the Commission as members of the governing body. He also announced the creation of four executive departments under the following heads—Interior, Dean Worcester; Commerce and Police, Luke E. Wright; Justice and Finance, Henry C. Ide; Public Instruction, Bernard Moses.

He was frequently interrupted by applause from those in the stand and in the street, and the Filipinos of the audience were loud in their cheers. However, owing to the mixed audience and the necessity of stopping after each paragraph to permit translation, besides the fact that the whole thing was new to most of the audience, there was not the spontaneous enthusiasm which was expected.

GENERAL CHAFFEE SUCCEEDS GENERAL MCARTHUR.

When the address was over, the party returned to the Ayuntamiento, where General McArthur transferred his command and duties to General Chaffee. This required only a few moments, and then the Governor, Commission, the Military and Naval Commanders and Staffs escorted General McArthur in carriages to the Pasig landing, where after brief adieux he boarded his launch and steamed down the river to the transport *Meade*, while the bands played "Auld Lang Syne." Then the Governor and General Chaffee drove together to the Ayuntamiento, where they held a reception in the Session Hall. It was concluded when the noon gun sounded over the western walls; and in one morning of three hours the Military Governor had retired, the new Commander had taken up his duties, and Civil Government had come to bless the country under the first American Civil Governor. Who says this is the land of *Mañana*?

PHILIPPINES UNDER CIVIL RULE.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 28th June.

THE BEGINNING OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

Civil rule is about to be installed in the Philippines with the organisations in the provinces and a central government at Manila. Nearly all of the provinces will have been organised under the Provincial Act, passed in February, the Civil Commission having visited so far for that purpose nearly 30 out of 40 of them. The most notable exception is furnished in Mindanao, where conditions of population and of resources along the south coast make it advisable at this time to substitute a civil department, to include the Jolo and other southern groups, in all of which the Filipinos are so few in number and the Moros and other tribes so numerous as to make ordinary government impracticable. Provision somewhat similar, or at any rate by special act, will be made for the supervision of some of the tribal districts of Northern Luzon. The island of Mindoro, heretofore unoccupied and to which troops have been forwarded this month, has no place in immediate plans. Samar must also be left out, because the military authorities seem to have thought until recently that the insurrection ought to wear itself out rather than be suppressed. Manila is to be organised under a separate act.

The executive head of the civil government will be William H. Taft, President of the Civil Commission. He will have a cabinet composed of the remaining members of the Commission, who will also sit with several Filipinos, to be appointed at first but perhaps afterward elected, as the chief legislative body of the islands. There will be a reorganisation of the judiciary, the Supreme Court sitting as a whole at Manila, and by divisions at Cebu and Iloilo, at times to be prescribed, for hearing appeals on questions of fact. A circuit system is ready for operation, under American judges, some of them specially brought from the United States to preside over what are locally known as Courts of the First Instance, which will correspond generally to county or superior courts. It is important that Americans hold these places, because native or Spanish lawyers in practice have become so thoroughly trained in the involved methods of the old school that the new codes and procedure will be too simple for their ready comprehension. Bench hours will be open to

them when they shall have accommodated themselves to modern practice.

The chief lesson to be imparted under the new rule will be that of government honestly administered. It is most important that it should be exemplary. Natives will look to Americans in office as guides to public conduct. Lessons thus imparted, to have full value, should be perfectly clear and direct. Nothing can so retard governmental progress as misconduct by Americans, who may ease their consciences with the reflection that at this distance from home they ought to make the most of their opportunities. Nothing will escape notice in view of the association of natives with Americans in affairs. How apt pupils may be in evil may be inferred from the notions drilled into them through misrule, leaving out of account reputed inborn tendencies. How well the lesson of correct observance of office obligations may be learned, is a question for experience to answer.

THE MILITARY AND CIVIL RULE.

There has been some uneasiness over supposed military jealousy of the succession of civil power. While this is true in a measure, it may be said in general that where commanders have brought their districts into pacified condition, willingness to be succeeded by civil authority is most cheerful. In such districts military supremacy has been effective largely because it was judicious, applying when needed peremptory measures, and at other times well tempered consideration. There are districts in which commanders have matters so well in hand and understand conditions so thoroughly that they feel sincerely apprehensive lest a change of authority may menace the order now prevailing. Since troops will be at hand for an indefinite period to uphold civil authority, fear of trouble on this account would seem to be needless. In districts not pacified, the military force will certainly not be reduced, and in some of those districts events have shown clearly enough that change is needed, and that even civil authority cannot be more inert or helpless than that which it will supersede. It is unfortunate for the peace of the islands that the provision was struck from the army bill which would have entitled men long in service to retire one grade above their active rank, for that would have disposed of officers whose declining careers are so consumed with heartburnings, that younger men are promoted over their heads, as to unfit them for useful activity, disregarding any other causes. Whatever comment may be justified on influences which at one time possibly restrained military progress in the islands, events now prove that officers who bestir themselves for peaceful conditions are the ones for whom favours and approval are reserved, and that for a time at least a share of the honours has fallen to those who earned them. The situation here in respect to the military personnel and the relation of that branch of the service to civil authority would need detailed treatment to make them clear. They serve now merely to accentuate conditions in some of the unpacified territory.

Whether opinions expressed at some of the meetings on the southern trip of the Commission, that civil government might have been advantageously established in various provinces months ago, are justified or not, the conclusion will hardly be questioned that a long step toward the welfare of the islands will have been taken when the military becomes auxiliary to the civil establishment. It would be as unfortunate to continue military rule as to withdraw the troops. Giving full credit to the commanders for what they have accomplished, signs have everywhere appeared that it was not wholly force of arms that impelled many of the surrenders. Insurgents who have been pacified by capture or surrender are those who could become so without personal danger. In summing up military operations, it should not be overlooked that insurgents whose surrender with honours of war will not be permitted, manage to elude the troops as well as they ever did, and are still powerful for mischief. Even if all who are in were convinced of the hopelessness of their cause, it would be a violent assumption either that they were alone in that view or that they might not have remained out in spite of it. The fact is that the work of the Commission has led the people to wish to give a trial to the form of government that the Commission offers.

Promises have been made most confidently in various provinces visited that order will be restored and kept through local agencies. On the eve of the return of the Commission from the south, a telegram came from Laguna, asking that civil government be established there. It is probably a safe guess that the other provinces in Luzon where military operations have not availed to restore order will come into line, trusting in the good faith of the Commission, and undertaking on their own account to suppress disorder. Should moral influence or police activity be unequal to this task, the military will no doubt be an efficient aid.

SAFEGUARDS OF GOVERNMENT.

Government in the municipalities and provinces, while in important respects autonomous, is to be surrounded by safeguards calculated to repress unworthy tendencies. Municipal officers, whether chosen by popular election or appointed by local authority, must be subject always to oversight by the provincial officers. Bonds will be required of those handling public funds, and the checks commonly used to prevent usurpation and to encourage good behaviour will be applied. Of the five provincial officers, the Governor will be the only one to be elected, and his election must be approved and confirmed by the executive authority of the islands. The Treasurer must qualify with a bond equal to the largest sum of money likely at any time to be in his hands, the Supervisor must be an engineer, and the Fiscal a lawyer. These officers, together with a Secretary, serve now in each organised province under appointment, because the first provincial election will not be held until next February.

AMERICAN v. FILIPINO APPOINTMENTS.

In some of the provinces, the representatives of the municipalities who met the Commission asked that preference be given to Americans in the appointments in order that the provincial machinery might be started right. The Commission has appointed, however, more Filipinos than Americans to the office of Governor. In every instance except one, the Americans appointed were army officers, most of them volunteers whose military service is about to end. Suggestions for such appointments often came from natives, showing that officers whose semi-civil duties brought them in contact with the people, not infrequently commanded such respect and affection as to make them the choice for the performance of duties wholly civil—quite as often American appointments were to be explained by faction feeling, running so high that the Commission chose this way of steering clear of it in its own work.

There were several reasons for giving the natives preference whenever it could be done without friction. Since the Governor is to be the only one of the five provincial officers elected, the probabilities are that natives generally will hold that place. By starting with a native, the Commission may escape criticism that might otherwise possibly be leveled at it hereafter on this score. The Provincial Board for administrative purposes is to consist of the Governor, the Treasurer and the Supervisor, the last two of whom, beginning with the next official year, are to be selected under the provisions and restrictions of the Civil Service Act. In view of the high requirements that bar the way to these two offices, the probabilities are that for some years both of these offices will be held by Americans in nearly every province. The two officers will constitute a majority of the Provincial Board. In other words, the immediate control of provincial affairs will be in American hands, although natives may hold three of the five provincial offices. The Secretary is merely a recorder and keeper of records, and the Fiscal attends to law work for the province and its municipalities. In cases in which natives may cease to remain a minority in the Provincial Board, the law provides such supervisory and corrective power in the central government as to make provincial administration a dangerous undertaking. At nearly all of the meetings in provincial capitals, emphasis was laid on the prime importance of public service for the public good. Natives cannot fail to understand what is expected in this regard, or that it is the intention, so far as central authority can control, to hold strictly to the performance of his duties every public official, and they have been assured that professions are to be upheld in practice to such an

extent that while their own offences will not be condoned, misconduct by American officials will be punished to the full extent of the law.

SLAVERY AND POLYGAMY.

Slavery and polygamy will need patient treatment. There are already indications that slavery may be terminated in a way that will appear voluntary. The military order which authorised persons to make complaint of slavery, or slaves to seek protection and liberty by appeal to military commanders, has had some beneficial effect. A few slaves have thus appealed and been set free. Their owners so far have made no fuss over this action. Now comes news from Zamboanga that Datto Nando there has issued a sort of emancipation edict in relation to slaves in his district. This does not mean much numerically; but it is encouraging as an indication that the problem may almost work itself out. Much will depend upon the treatment of those who hold slaves. Since there is no reason to suppose that efforts will be made to deprive them of this property by force, the need will be for a tactful Governor in that district. Military management there has been in the main discreet. There is no tribe hostile to Americans, and many of them are quite friendly. If they shall have careful handling in the future, through civil agency, with the retention of a military force as a visible expression of power, they may become good subjects. The man who undertakes to do this will have a task that will call upon his ingenuity, his patience and his aptitude for dealing with human material that has heretofore always been unwieldy and unmanageable. It was not many years ago that the tribes were aggressive. All through the Visayas may be seen watch-towers that were built and occupied by natives as lookouts, that the people might be warned of the approach of savage invaders. Moros sent out their shell fleets over seas often turbulent, usually taking back with them booty and sometimes slaves. So much has been said by everybody against the Spaniards that it is a relief to be able to give them credit for having put a stop to that as well as to the piracy that infested those waters. But the Spaniards could never do much with the tribes except defensively. The nearest they came to accomplishing results by aggression was when they laid a bed for a railroad from Iligan to Lake Lanao, in Mindanao, took two or three gunboats up to the lake and dumped them there, after shelling the people away from the shores. The railroad enterprise failed, and the Americans may fish out the gunboats should they ever wish to disperse the Moro settlement of 250,000 people at the lake. On the other hand, these very instruments may now be turned to account in a way to enlist Moro co-operation and encouragement. If the Moros could be convinced that there were no menacing intentions toward them, and that ready access to the coast, by rail or any other kind of road, would bring them trade, money, and protection, it is by no means certain that they would oppose the improvement. They are gifted with natural shrewdness, they have an eye for the main chance, and if they believe, as they say and act, that they will have fair play, there is no telling how far their disposition might be moulded for the acceptance of suggestions in relation to other things.

ROADS AND CIVILISATION.

Tribal life implies isolation. One departure from the customs that have hedged the tribes may lead to others. It might not be too much to expect a multiplication of roads, should one experiment prove fortunate. Mando's order points to the effect of good treatment in a single neighbourhood. Other neighbourhoods might follow it under similar treatment. Slow as that process may be, an attempt to force such a result would probably be slower. Moros might be reached, for their traditions make them live near the water; but other tribes that practise slavery have their habitat in the wilds, where such small bodies of white troops as are likely to be kept in the southern islands could never run them down. If polygamy is ever to be abolished it must be from enlightenment or self-interest. Talk about it at present might as well be addressed to the monkeys which share with the tribes the wilderness. There will be opportunity in that region to test the value of patience and tact as a civiliser, or to settle official opinion on the proposition that the only good savages are dead ones. It is

hardly conceivable that the rich territory which the tribes occupy shall remain unexplored or undeveloped.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 6th inst.:

The Belgians are reported to be negotiating for a Settlement below the German Concession. Several native banks in Peking have reopened in anticipation of the Court's return and the revival of business.

Cholera has broken out in Shensi, and all the officials are very anxious to get away. The Empress Dowager is reported to be sick. Wolf!

One of the high officials, i.e., presumably of the triumvirate, has again censured Li Hung-chang for delaying the conclusion of the negotiations.

The Germans are reported to be offering their telephone (?) lines to the Chinese for Tls. 40,000. These lines presumably connect Pao-tung and Peking.

All the troops arriving from Japan to relieve the forces that have been here, are neatly dressed in khaki, and look much better than in their conspicuous white.

Capt. Bancroft, R.W.F., left for England to recruit his health on Sunday last, accompanied by his wife, and we hope the voyage will do him the much good he needs.

The Tongshan mines are reported to be working well, the out-put being more than four times what it formerly was, and yet hardly sufficing to meet the demand.

All British troops in Peking, including the Summer Palace, are under the command of Col. A. de V. Alexander, 16th Bengal Lancers, since the departure of Major-General Sir N. Stewart.

A report is current to the effect that Yuan Shih-kai has begged the Court to withdraw the Edict allowing him only 100 days' mourning and asked for the full term of retirement in his native place.

The Allied Villagers in southern Chihli, owing to the Imperial troops being sent to disperse them, have withdrawn to the northern bank of the Yellow River, where they are now in great force.

According to the *Chih Pao*, Li Hung-chang's troops in Chihli, though nominally intended to deal with Boxers and rioters, are in reality only being organised as an opposing force to Tung Fuhsiang.

According to the *Universal Gazette*, secret negotiations are going on between Li Hung-chang and the Russian Government for the transfer of Newchwang to that Power as a recognition for withdrawing her troops.

The President of the Hanlin College has memorialised the Throne correcting the report which was formerly current that the building had been destroyed by the foreign troops. He has declared the work done by the Chinese themselves and that the foreigners on the contrary tried to save it. We wonder what he will get for his pains.

The "cheerful idiot" as represented by the Court conservatives, accepted the news of the burning of the Wu Yin Hall and documents philosophically, remarking that it was the work of the gods, the Hall having been profaned by foreigners and being no longer fit for the Son of Heaven. Thus, then, must they speak of all the Imperial buildings in the Capital!

The poll tax is fixed by the Chinese Government at Tl. 1 per male head between the ages of 15 and 50. Arrangements are now being made for the institution of a house tax. In Manchian-hsien near Pao-tung-fu the people have been strongly resisting the imposition of taxes to meet the Government's demands, and threatened to kill the Magistrate and his whole family on a certain date, and he has closed the city gates in great trepidation.

About 11 o'clock on Thursday night, a Fusilier policeman under the influence of drink, ran amok in Victoria Road, near the Astor House, and narrowly escaped doing serious damage. He fired at some ricksha coolies, and was with the greatest difficulty arrested and disarmed by four or five Fusiliers, with whom he fought desperately. Capt. Cleveland, who was passing, rendered assistance, and the Provost Marshal was promptly on the scene. The man will probably be pretty severely dealt with.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE PROPOSED PLAGUE HOSPITAL FOR QUARRY BAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
14th July.

SIR,—As responsibility for the rejection by the Sanitary Board of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's proposal seems to have rested mainly with Dr. Bell, Mr. May and Dr. Clark, with your permission I will venture to criticise the action of these gentlemen, and after doing so will leave the public to judge as to whether such action was founded upon commonsense or not.

I will take each of the above members of the Board in turn:—

First, Dr. Bell:—This speaker in the course of the debate laid particular stress on the point that he was quoting and arguing from facts. I will take this line of argument, and confine my criticisms to fact.

Dr. Bell knows that there is one and only one real objection to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's application, and that is the risk of infection being spread. Now in the name of commonsense which does Dr. Bell consider the more wise proceeding—to have all the cases of plague collected in one building and under constant observation and treatment, or to have them hidden while an inspector is near, and subsequently, when opportunity offers, smuggled away? This last is what has admittedly occurred over and over again throughout the colony during the present epidemic, and it is a direct undoing of the labours of the Sanitary Board. This constitutes fact No. 1.

With adequate disinfection of dejecta, sputum and bedding (which could be done effectively at Quarry Bay), and with careful supervision of the cases under treatment, the risk of infection being spread vanishes—wholly, absolutely, and entirely. This, sir, is fact No. 2, and I challenge denial of it, though not perhaps as vigorously as Dr. Bell! Fact No. 3:—This supervision could be entrusted to any well-trained student of the Alice Memorial Hospital, who would reside constantly at the proposed Hospital, and would be under the direct control of the manager of the Refinery and the staff of skilled analytical chemists, in addition to Dr. Kwan.

If Dr. Bell denies that such supervision could be relied upon, then I challenge him to give adequate reason for the existence of the Tung Wah branch of the Plague Hospital at Kennedytown, which is only visited at 24 hour intervals by the Medical Officer in charge of Kennedytown Hospital, who cannot be aware of anything that may occur in the interval between his visits.

Next, Mr. May:—This speaker was entirely opposed to the application, because the Board requires European supervision for the same reason that it requires an European to supervise the Tung Wah and other Plague Hospitals. What is the reason? The speaker failed to point it out.

Does Mr. May really imagine that the Medical Officer in charge of Kennedytown makes a bacteriological diagnosis of every case in the Tung Wah branch—for this can be the only logical argument running in his mind when he refers to 50 per cent. of cases in the Canton native hospitals not being cases of plague at all.

In this connection I will quote the words of a speaker at a recent meeting of the Epidemiological Society in London. The meeting was held as recently as May 17th, 1901, Dr. Manson occupied the chair, and the subject was the "Diagnosis of Plague":—

Dr. Cantlie admitted his inability to diagnose clinically any cases of plague he had seen in this country except those at Glasgow. Clinical diagnosis is the equivalent of diagnosis from symptoms only, i.e., without bacteriological confirmation.

Now wherein does Mr. May's objection to Dr. Kwan lie? Surely if European doctors are not infallible it is to be expected that Dr. Kwan should be so? Seeing that the majority of Chinese cases are well marked, would not Dr. Kwan be capable of diagnosing at least over

90 per cent. No, Mr. May's arguments will only hold as much water as a Shanghai bath with the plug out!

The next on the list is Dr. Clark. This worthy gentleman did not speak (according to report). "Silence is golden" perhaps he thought, and under the circumstances I think it was; for what an extraordinary spectacle is presented to the public gaze, Mr. Editor. Here we have the Dean of the School of Medicine for Chinese refusing to recognise the professional qualifications of a *diplômé* of the School. I had really thought better of our M.O.H. The inconsistency of it! Is it not astounding, for Dr. Clark actually holds the post of Lecturer on Public Health at this same College of Medicine! Does he then so under-rate the pupils he himself has trained?

And yet again more inconsistency, as for some time the Board refused permission to allow Messrs. Butterfield & Swire to disinfect their own premises—such disinfection to be carried out by the staff of skilled analytical chemists in their employ, men whose equal is only to be found in Mr. Frank Browne—and yet I have seen disinfection by the Sanitary Board in the central and crowded districts of the city relegated to a coolie brigade, sometimes under and sometimes not under European supervision. Were there ever such inconsistencies?

Is this disinfection by the Sanitary Board of such value as to warrant their denial of the right of others to disinfect their own premises? Was not its worthlessness proved at Wild Dell, when European lives were twice endangered through inadequate disinfection?

It is greatly to be hoped, Sir, that the Board may yet reconsider its decision, and not stultify itself by refusing to recognise an honest effort to diminish its labours.—Yours, &c.,

MEDICUS.

THE INSANITARY POLICE COURT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

14th July.

SIR,—Some time ago the filthy condition of the Supreme Court raised considerable criticism, so much so that at last the authorities bestirred themselves and had the place cleaned, "the carpets being dusted" for the first time in the history of the Court.

Now that the Supreme Court is somewhat cleaned up, I think it is time that attention be turned to the Police Court, the stuffiest, uncleanest and most ill-smelling public office in Hongkong—which says a great deal. Take first the so-called "big court" room. Daily from fifty to seventy-five half-naked, unwashed and perspiring Chinese crowd behind the rail reserved for native spectators. Then the top windows are closed, and there is not a breath of air, except what is produced by a punkah lazily pulled. The prisoners' box is likewise crowded like a sheep-pen, and you can imagine what effluvia arise therefrom. The "small court" is just as bad. In fact, both rooms are unsuited for the purpose for which they are used, being too small and not sufficiently ventilated. But if the authorities cannot afford to have larger and better furnished rooms for the magistrates to try his cases in, as in Singapore or Shanghai, why in the name of common sense are all the windows kept shut?

Again, the verandah is overcrowded daily with the friends of delinquents, and even there the smell is often something awful. And the solution of chloride of lime which is sprinkled three or four times a day over this same verandah, though no doubt a good disinfectant, when mingling with the smell emanating from the unwashed humanity around, is certainly anything but pleasing.

Were the court room and verandah floors daily well washed out, a few electric fans put into the rooms, and the top windows kept open, it would make the place a little less obnoxious to those who have the misfortune of daily having business there. As it is the place is certainly not a thing of beauty or joy, but a disgrace to the colony.—Yours, etc.,

VENTILATOR.

Mr. A. Hoie, H. M. Consul at Newchwang, left Shanghai for his post by the *Canton* on the morning of the 11th inst.

UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL AGENCY, LD.

The following is the report and statement of accounts for presentation to the shareholders at the fifth ordinary annual meeting to be held at the offices of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., Queen's Buildings, on Monday, 29th July, at 3 p.m.:-

ACCOUNTS.

The balance at the credit of profit and loss account, after writing off \$1,150 for depreciation and including \$584.34 brought forward from last year, is \$15,631.80, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:-

To place to reserve fund	\$3,000.00
„ pay a dividend of 15 per cent. on ordinary shares	5,940.00
„ general managers' remuneration	2,000.00
„ pay a further dividend of 5 per cent. on ordinary shares	1,930.00
„ pay \$19.80 per share on 100 founders' shares	1,980.00
„ carry forward to new account	731.80
	\$15,631.80

AUDITOR.

The accounts now presented have been audited by Mr. W. H. Potts, who, being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th July, 1901.

BALANCE-SHEET.

31st May, 1901.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
To capital 9,900 ordinary shares of \$10, of which \$4 per share paid		39,600.00	
100 founders' shares of \$10 fully paid		1,000.00	
		40,600.00	
To bills payable		14,282.35	
To sundry creditors		20,965.28	
To unclaimed dividends		150.00	
To reserve fund		2,000.00	
To profit and loss account balance		15,031.80	
		\$93,629.43	

ASSETS.

	\$	c.
By value of launch <i>Gladiator</i> as per last account	5,000.00	
Less written off	1,000.00	
	4,000.00	
By value of furniture and fittings as per last account	300.00	
Less written off	150.00	
	150.00	
By value of material on hand	46,247.81	
By unexpired portion of insurance policies	231.54	
By sundry debtors	30,565.52	
By cash in bank	12,193.13	
By cash in hands of General Managers	241.43	
	\$93,629.43	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

31st May, 1901.

	\$	c.
To trade expenses, salaries, commissions, launch working, rent, advertising	40,319.88	
To auditor's fee	50.00	
To depreciation for year ending 31st May	1,150.00	
To balance carried to new account	15,631.80	
	\$57,151.68	
By balance from last account	584.34	
By profit on sales	56,367.45	
By transfer fees	42.00	
By interest	157.89	
	\$57,151.68	

HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING, AND DYEING CO., LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the above company was held on the 13th inst. in the offices of the general managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., 4, Pedder Street, to confirm the resolutions adopted at an extraordinary general meeting held on Thursday, 27th ult. The Hon. J. J. Bell Irving occupied the chair, and there were also present the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Mr. A. Haupt (consulting committee), and Messrs. C. W. Dickson, K. McK. Ross, A. Shaw (manager), V. H. Deacon, A. Brook Smith (secretary), Ho Fook, Ah Hee, On Lun, Ho Kom Tong, Yuen Hop, and Ho Yu Shang.

The notice convening the meeting and the resolutions concerned having been read, the CHAIRMAN said:-Gentlemen, as you are aware, the object of this meeting is to confirm or otherwise the special resolutions which were passed at an extraordinary general meeting held a fortnight ago. I therefore propose that the resolutions which you have just heard read by the secretary be now confirmed.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER seconded, and the proposal was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then said:-Work at the mill will be resumed on Monday next, and shortly after the Supreme Court has sanctioned the reconstruction scheme, applications for the new issue of capital will be invited, due notice being given. New share certificates will then be exchanged for the old scrip at present held by shareholders. That is everything, gentlemen.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 15th July.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

COLLINS v. GIBSON.—ACTION FOR ALLEGED BREACH OF AGREEMENT.

The plaintiff was Robert Aloysius Collins, cycle-repairer and manufacturer 11, D'Aguilar Street, and the defendant Emerson Fitzgerald Gibson, cycle-dealer, 18, D'Aguilar Street. The plaintiff's claim was \$2,000 damages for breach by the defendant of an agreement with the plaintiff, dated 2nd June, whereby the defendant agreed (*inter alia*) that he would not at any time thereafter, either by himself or in connection with any other person or persons, carry on the business of cycle-repairer or manufacturer in Hongkong, Macao and Canton, so long as the plaintiff or his partner or partners, or his or their executors, administrators or assignees should carry on such business in Hongkong. The plaintiff also claimed an injunction to restrain the defendant from further committing a breach of such agreement by continuing to carry on such business in the colony of Hongkong.

Mr. J. J. Francis, K.C. (instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson), appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. Robinson, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. H. Hursthouse) for the defendant.

Mr. Francis read the petition in the suit, and then proceeded to open the case. He said the issue that would have to be decided by his Lordship was whether there had been any breach of covenant by the defendant—whether the defendant had or had not since June, 1898, been carrying on the business of cycle-dealer, repairer or manufacturer in Hongkong. The writ in the suit was issued in November last, the petition was filed in February of this year, and the answer in March. The defendant had for some time prior to the date of sale been carrying on the business of cycle-dealer and agent in D'Aguilar Street in the present premises occupied by the plaintiff. He was a man possessing great knowledge of the cycle trade, and had got together a fair business for himself. On the 2nd June, 1898, he sold that business to the plaintiff for the sum of \$1,000, and undertook, as set out in the petition, that he would not, either himself or in concert with any other person or persons, carry on any such cycle business in Hongkong, Macao, or Canton, while the plaintiff or his partner or partners, or his or their administrators or assignees, continued to carry on business in Hongkong. Very shortly after the sale the defendant went to Shanghai, and was there for half a year, when he came back here. It was believed that the defendant was connected with a cycle business in Shanghai—in some partnership or association there—and indirectly that may have had some bearing on his subsequent conduct down here. On his return from Shanghai Gibson became manager of a shop or small store opened for the sale of acetylene gas-lamps. In regard to that concern little or nothing was known, but it was believed to be some Chinese organisation, mainly kept up by Gibson. The business soon afterwards became a failure, and

had to be closed. In June, 1899, Mr. A. F. Ramsey, chief engineer on one of the Douglas steamers, nominally opened in Wanchai a business precisely similar to that carried on by Collins, and also had a stall or portion of the hall in the Hongkong Hotel at his disposal for the exhibition of bicycles and bicycle accessories. The business was opened in the first instance in the name of A. F. Ramsey, but as chief engineer of a steamer Mr. Ramsey was only infrequently in Hongkong, and then only for a day or two. It would be proved that Gibson himself made the necessary arrangements for the hire of a portion of the hall of the Hongkong Hotel, that it was either by himself or in his name that the rent for that stall was paid, and that the only business carried on was that of a bicycle-dealer, nominally in the name of A. F. Ramsey. In September of 1899 Gibson went to England for the purpose, it would be proved, of making arrangements on behalf of A. F. Ramsey for the supply of Ramsey & Company with bicycles and bicycle accessories. Bills of lading would be produced of goods shipped from England and America. The bill of lading for one set of goods coming from America was signed "Ramsey & Co." by the defendant, who took delivery of the goods and paid for them. In April, 1900, the defendant returned to the colony, and very shortly afterwards the stall in the hall of the Hongkong Hotel was given up. In June of the same year the name of the firm was changed from A. F. Ramsey to Ramsay & Company, and the business was removed from Wanchai to No. 18, D'Aguilar Street, almost immediately opposite the premises occupied by the plaintiff. The defendant, it would be shown from a letter or letters written directly in connection with the business of Ramsey & Company, was signing for the firm without any qualification whatever, and from the evidence of a witness in the suit it would be proved that Gibson had a direct interest of two-thirds in the business.

Evidence was then led. Robert Aloysius Collins, the plaintiff, deposed as to his purchasing his present business from the defendant, and the agreement then entered into by the latter not to engage in the cycle trade whilst the plaintiff carried on such business in Hongkong. The breach of that agreement by the defendant had interfered with the plaintiff's business to the extent of at least two or three hundred dollars a month.

By Mr. Robinson—Plaintiff was not a West Indian by origin. He served his time as an apprentice in a mechanical works in India. When he first arrived in Hongkong he was a warder in Victoria Gaol at a salary of \$10 per month. When he left that occupation at the end of June, 1897, his salary was double that figure. Plaintiff then joined Kinghorn & Macdonald, and received a monthly salary of eighty or ninety dollars. He took up the business of a cycle-dealer when he left Kinghorn & Macdonald. The capital of that business amounted to about \$1,500, and this sum he had obtained in advances from various people.

Mr. Francis contested the relevancy of a question by Mr. Robinson as to the names of these people, but his Lordship did not sustain the objection.

Plaintiff, continuing, said Mrs. Carroll advanced him about \$800, and he also borrowed money from Ruttonjee & Company. In addition to that, he did business on credit with American suppliers. No one else, however, had advanced him money. Plaintiff had repaid the loan from Mrs. Carroll, with interest, but had since borrowed again from her, and from other people.

Mr. Robinson—How much do you owe other people?

Mr. Francis—I submit, my Lord, this is wholly irrelevant. It is going too far altogether. His Lordship sustained the objection.

Mr. Robinson then asked the plaintiff the value of the stock-in-trade, but Mr. Francis again objected, and the question was overruled by his Lordship, who remarked—"The only point for me to decide is whether there has or has not been a breach of covenant."

Replying to further questions by Mr. Robinson, plaintiff said he did not object to the defendant engaging in the acetylene lamp business, and had himself purchased such lamps from the defendant. It was the case that when the defendant came back from Shanghai in

1899 the plaintiff offered to re-sell him the business for \$1,200, but the offer was made in a joke.

Inspector Collett deposed to a conversation he had had with Gibson in August or September of last year, when, in reply to a question by witness as to whether he was speculating, Gibson said the business was run by Ramsey, but that three parts of it was owned by him (Gibson).

Charles Mooney, secretary to the Hongkong Hotel Company, produced receipts to show that the stall in the Hongkong Hotel corridor was rented for the Acetylene Lamp Syndicate by Gibson. The stall was hired for the exhibition of acetylene lamps, but during Gibson's absence in England some bicycles were also exhibited. The stall was rented from 1st May, 1899, till 30th June, 1900. Gibson paid the rent when he was in the colony, but during his absence in England Mr. Ramsay and sometimes Mrs. Ramsay paid it.

Emerson Fitzgerald Gibson, defendant, was called. He said the Acetylene Lamp Company was wound up principally because of the heavy cost of the freightage of carbide, one of the compounds used in the manufacture of acetylene gas, and one which, from its highly explosive nature, could only be handled with safety by a person understanding its properties.

Mr. J. J. Francis, K.C., cross-examined defendant at length, and the further hearing was then adjourned.

Tuesday, 16th July.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

COLLINS v. GIBSON.

The hearing of evidence was resumed.

Mr. Francis continued his cross-examination of Mr. Gibson, the defendant. The Acetylene Lamp Company on one occasion did deal in bicycles—in April, 1899, before the defendant went home. The order for the goods was given by Mr. A. F. Ramsey, but was not contained in the firm's letter-book, the page being missing from the book. Mr. Ramsey paid by instalment for the goods, but defendant could not remember whether by cheque or otherwise, nor whether Mr. Ramsey received a receipt for the money. That money did not go into the defendant's pocket, but was credited to the Acetylene Company. The order for the bicycles was given, defendant thought, either in May or June, 1899.

A shipping order was produced showing that the goods were shipped from America on 19th April, 1899.

Mr. Francis—On 19th April. Then why are you looking in the books for May and June for an order shipped on 19th April?

Defendant—I was not sure when the order was given, but I thought it was in the spring of 1899.

Mr. Francis—Because you told a lie—that is the reason.

Defendant—I told no lie. I looked through the books because you told me.

Continuing, the defendant said he knew a man named Livingstone, a former schoolmaster, but had never had any communication with him on behalf of Ramsey & Company. Livingstone was in partnership in a bicycle business with one McKirdy down in Wanchai, and defendant on one occasion took his bicycle to him to be repaired.

Mr. Francis—Was that the only transaction you had with Livingstone?

Defendant—Yes.

Mr. Francis—You never wrote him a letter?

Defendant—No.

Mr. Francis—Just look at that photo of this writing, and tell us if it is yours.

Defendant (after examining the writing)—Yes, that's mine.

Mr. Francis—Then why did you say you never wrote to him? I suppose you thought we didn't have that photo?

Defendant—I did not think anything about it.

Mr. Francis—Just listen whilst I read the letter:—"Dear Livingstone—I find we have no one-inch tubing, only one-and-a-half, and of two sizes, namely, 20 inches and 21 inches, so try and do the best you can with that. I will try and call round on Monday and see how you are getting along.—Yours truly, E. F. GIBSON."

Is that solely connected with the repairs to your own bicycle?

Defendant—Yes.

Mr. Francis—And who are the people—"I find we have no one-inch tubing?" To whom does "we" refer?

Defendant—I was in partnership then with young Mr. Lysaught.

Mr. Francis—And the "we" referred to there is yourself and young Mr. Lysaught?

Defendant—Yes.

Coming to the matter of the assistance he had given Mrs. Ramsey in looking after the cycle business during her husband's absence from the colony, defendant said it consisted only of advice, and he had never anything to do with the actual conduct of the business. Defendant knew a Gardner Williams in Swatow, but he had never offered to sell him his shares in Ramsey & Company. Neither had one Mallory, in Hongkong, offered to buy those shares. Defendant did not put \$2,000 in the business of Ramsey & Company, and Ramsey had not offered to buy him out. Further than that, the defendant had had no legal transactions with Ramsey & Company through Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors, during the past twelve months.

Re-examined by Mr. Robinson, defendant said Gardner Williams was chief clerk to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire in Swatow. With regard to the stall in the Hongkong Hotel, defendant was positive that the Acetylene Lamp Company did not deal in bicycles during the time he was in the colony, previous to his departure for England.

Before leaving the box, the defendant, addressing his Lordship on the matter of the bicycle goods ordered for the Acetylene Lamp Company by Mr. Ramsey, said—In justice to myself and to protect my character, I wish to explain that the cheque payable for those goods was signed by the partners in the firm as well as by myself.

The next witness was Mrs. Ramsey, who was afterwards cross-examined by Mr. Francis. The reason the name of the cycle business owned by her husband was changed from A. F. Ramsey to A. F. Ramsey & Company was because the latter designation sounded better. Witness's husband was the company. The capital of \$2,000 was obtained partly in loans and partly by what Mr. Ramsey himself had in the way of savings. The remainder of the capital was made up in stock.

Mr. H. Haynes, manager of the Hongkong Hotel, gave evidence relative to the letting of the stall in the corridor of the hotel to the Acetylene Light Company.

Mr. Robinson asked his Lordship to adjourn the case to permit of the attendance of Mr. Ramsey when his ship arrived. Dr. Hartigan, Mr. Robinson said, had also been subpoenaed.

The hearing was adjourned *sine die*.

Thursday, 19th July.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

There were only three cases on the calendar—Lo Shing, robbery by two or more persons; Lo Yew Hoi *alias* Tai Li, uttering a forged will; Ho Kwai, (1) robbing and wounding; (2), wounding.

SPECIAL SESSIONS TO BE HELD.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Acting Attorney-General, before the commencement of the Sessions, asked his Lordship to fix a day for the hearing of two cases pending at the Police Court under the Forgery Ordinance. One of the witnesses was a man holding an official position in the Namtao district of China. He was now in the colony, and if he went away it would be difficult to get him down here again, as he would be outside the jurisdiction of the Court.

His Lordship fixed Monday for the Special Sessions, subject to the cases on the calendar being finished.

ROBBERING AND WOUNDING.

Ho Kwai was charged (1) with wounding one Lau On on the 10th May and robbing him of \$5-20, and (2) with wounding Lau On on the same date.

A plea of not guilty was tendered by the defendant.

The following jury was empanelled: Messrs. D. P. J. Lopes, F. X. do Rosario, F. Groning, F. G. Chunnnett, W. S. Bailey, J. I. Andrew, and R. Packham.

The Acting Attorney-General, in detailing the circumstances of the case, said that on the 10th May the prosecutor, a flower-gardener out of employment, went to the Sui Kie opium divan, situated in a side lane off Queen's Road West. After smoking some opium he left the divan and went out into the lane. Here he met two men, one of whom ran up and put his arm round the prosecutor, while the other man, who was known to the prosecutor by sight and who was the prisoner in the dock, put his hand into the prosecutor's pocket and pulled out a package containing \$5.20. The prosecutor tried to snatch the package from the prisoner, whom he caught by the queue. The prisoner thereupon stabbed the prosecutor in the hip, inflicting a rather serious injury. The prosecutor fell to the ground, and his two assailants ran away. Recovering slightly, the injured man got into a ricksha and drove to No. 7 Police Station, where he made a report. The evidence of the opium divan keeper would show that the prisoner and the other man were in the divan on the same night as the prosecutor, and that they left together. The story told by the prisoner at the Police Court in answer to the charge was that he and the prosecutor used to go out together "to make money." On the night in question the prisoner alleged that the prosecutor quarrelled with him in the opium divan about some money. They went down into the street together, and the prosecutor then asked the prisoner for two dollars. The prisoner had no money, and, according to his story, was there and then assaulted by the prosecutor. The prisoner picked up a piece of wood to defend himself, and struck the prosecutor with it, not knowing there was a nail in the wood.

Evidence was then led. Dr. Bell's statement was to the effect that the wound on the prosecutor's hip was a jagged one four inches deep and from a half to three-quarters of an inch broad at the surface. The wound had been inflicted by a sharp instrument like a penknife.

The prisoner's defence was similar to that which he made at the Police Court. The prosecutor was a thief, and had tried to get him to steal. When he struck the prosecutor he did not know there was a nail in the wood.

The jury retired to consider their verdict, and returned after an absence of five minutes. The foreman said they had found the prisoner not guilty on the first count and guilty on the second, adding a rider to the effect that he had acted under provocation, and did not mean to inflict such a severe injury.

In passing sentence of four months' hard labour, his Lordship said it was known that there were previous convictions against the prisoner, but that the Attorney-General did not desire to press these. The fact of their existence was mentioned just to show the prisoner that he was known.

ROBBERY.

Li Shing pleaded not guilty to a charge of robbery by one or more persons at Kwai Chung on the 7th ult., when four men entered a matched and stole money and property belonging to one Ching Yau, whom they assaulted.

The jury was the same as that in the previous case.

The Acting Attorney-General said the prosecutor was the master of a grocer's shop at Kwai Chung, near Laichikok. On the 7th June, in the early morning, he was awakened by a knocking at the door, which, on being opened by the prosecutor, disclosed four men standing outside. One of the men covered the prosecutor's eyes with his hands, and another put sand into his mouth. Sand was also rubbed on the prosecutors' eyes; he was then blindfolded and bound to the bed. After a time he succeeded in getting the bandage partly from his eyes and saw the four men plundering the matched. They stole money and clothing to the value of between fourteen and fifteen dollars, and made off in their boat. The prosecutor's shouts attracted the notice of a neighbour, who released him from his bonds. The prosecutor then got into a fishing junk and made his way to Yau-mati, where he reported the robbery to Con

stable Wild. The prisoner was arrested in the street early next morning, and, besides carrying a bundle containing part of the stolen property, was wearing at the time clothes which the prosecutor recognised as his.

Evidence was heard, and the jury unanimously found the prisoner guilty. He was sentenced to seven years' hard labour and twenty birch strokes, to be administered at the discretion of the gaol authorities.

HONGKONG CRICKET FESTIVAL, 1901.

In confirmation of what we reported in our issue of the 13th inst., we are informed by the Committee of the Hongkong Cricket Club that the Straits have accepted a challenge from the Club to visit the colony in November next. Shanghai have also practically decided to come, bringing with them two members who will represent them at lawn-tennis. The dates fixed for the Interport Cricket Week are the 11th to 16th November, but these have not yet been confirmed by the Straits and Shanghai.

The Straits have also sent an invitation asking Hongkong to send a team to Singapore to play a Straits team at Chinese New Year, 1902. This challenge does not apply to Hongkong only, but to China generally. The matter is now under consideration.

SHOOTING MATCH AT KOWLOON.

VOLUNTEERS v. NON-VOLUNTEERS.

The return shooting match between the Volunteer and Non-Volunteer members of the Rifle Association came off at the Kowloon range on the 13th inst. The weather was good, but the light was changeable. The composition of the teams was slightly different from that in the match at the Tai Hang Range, Causeway Bay. Of the Non-Volunteers, Inspector McLennan, Sergeant Bowery, R.E., and Quartermaster-Sergeant West, R.E., were replaced by Captain Warren, R.A., Corporal Eddie, R.E., and Sergeant Cross, R.M.L.I. Two alterations took place in the Volunteer team, Gunner Pidgeon, "B" Company, and Corporal J. I. Andrew, "D" Company, succeeding Gunner Lapsley, Field Battery, and Private Watson, "D" Company. Corporal Andrew (Volunteers) and Sergeant Cross (Non-Volunteers), it may be explained, were taken on when firing had commenced, it being found that each team was a man short. At the match at the Tai Hang Range the Volunteers were beaten by 50, but on Saturday they completely turned the tables, winning by 62. At 200 yards they led by 3 points, at 500 yards 14 points were added to this slight advantage, and at 600 yards the Volunteers completely outmatched their opponents by piling on a majority of 45. Lieut. Lammert (99), Gunner Baldwin (98), and Captain Carlyle (97) were in their best form, and were easily the highest scorers. Appended are the figures:—

VOLUNTEERS.

	200.	500.	600.	Tl.
Lieut. G. P. Lammert, "C" Co.,	33	33	33	99
Gun. Baldwin, F.B.,	33	32	33	98
Gun. Pidgeon, "B" Co.,	31	33	32	96
Ser. Marshall, "B" Co.,	32	29	34	95
Ser. Stewart, F.B.,	31	33	30	94
Priv. A. Mackenzie, "D" Co.,	30	33	29	92
Priv. B. Clarke, "D" Co.,	31	33	27	91
Priv. Horley, "D" Co.,	32	30	26	88
Lieut. Mossop, F.B.,	31	29	25	85
Corpl. J. I. Andrew, "D" Co.,	30	26	25	81

314 311 294 919

NON-VOLUNTEERS.

	200.	500.	600.	Tl.
Capt. Carlyle, A.O.D.,	33	35	29	97
Q.M.-Ser. Wallace, R.E.,	33	32	31	96
Mr. J. Cramer, R.N.,	32	32	28	92
Ser.-Ins. Wake, R.M.L.I.,	31	30	29	90
Mr. W. G. Stackwood,	29	32	25	86
Ar.-Ser. Blair, A.O.D.,	34	28	24	86
Ser. Cross, R.M.L.I.,	27	27	29	83
Capt. Warren, R.A.,	30	25	24	79
Ser.-Gt. Mackie, R.W.F.,	30	29	19	78
Corpl. Eddie, R.E.,	32	29	11	70

311 297 249 857

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

MACWEEN CUP: BOGEY CUP: POOL.

Although entries were up to the average, it is to be regretted that very few cards were returned. If members would make a point of always handing their scores in, the handicapping committee's task would be made much simpler.

The winner of the MacEwen Cup in his second round succeeded in breaking the 9 hole record of the course in medal play. The score was made up as follows:—4, 4, 5, 4, 4, 4, 4, 3=36.

MACWEEN CUP.

Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	...	79	3	76
Capt. R. M. Rumsey, R.N.	...	98	11	87

14 entries.

BOGEY CUP.

Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	...	rec. 2 strokes 5 down
Capt. R. M. Rumsey, R.N.	...	6 " 8 "

14 entries.

POOL.

Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	...	79	3	76
" H. S. Sweeting	...	103	18	85

10 entries.

PROFESSIONAL PAIRS TOURNAMENT.

During the past month members have been engaged in the above competition, for which 11 couples entered. The winners had a hard struggle in their semi-final round, ending all square with their opponents after being "dormy 2" down. On replaying a few days later they were victorious by 2 up and 1 to play.

FIRST TIES.

Mr. H. W. Robertson and Mr. C. W. Dickson (Merchants), Mr. A. B. Rouse and Mr. C. H. P. Hay (Insurance), Mr. H. W. Slade and Mr. E. L. Richardson (Merchants), Mr. W. J. Saunders and Mr. C. M. G. Burnie (Insurance), Major Dorehill, R.A. and Capt. D. Clapham, R.A. (Military), all byes. Mr. E. J. Grist and Mr. J. Hastings (Lawyers) were beaten by Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins and Hon. J. Thurburn (Bankers) by 4 up and 3 to play; while Mr. P. A. Cox and Mr. W. G. Worcester (Shipping) only succumbed after a gallant struggle to Major Koe, A.S.C., and Capt. Des Vœux, R.A. (Military) at the 21st hole, the match being thus prolonged by mutual agreement. Mr. T. C. Gray and Mr. P. Rodier (Merchants) scratched to Mr. T. S. Forrest and Mr. A. B. Smith (Merchants).

SECOND TIES.

Major Koe and Capt. Des Vœux defeated Messrs. Hawkins and Thurburn by 2 holes after a good fight. Messrs. Forrest and Smith accounted for Messrs. Robertson and Dickson. Messrs. Rouse and Hay beat Messrs. Slade and Richardson. Messrs. Saunders and Burnie disposed of Major Dorehill and Capt. Clapham, in all three cases by 4 up and 3 to play.

SEMI-FINAL.

Messrs. Forrest and Smith conceding Major Koe and Capt. Des Vœux 4 strokes were dormy 2 down, but eventually succeeded in halving the match, and in playing off the tie a few days later proved victorious by 2 up and 1 to play. Messrs. Saunders and Burnie conceding 8 strokes scored a hollow victory over Messrs. Rouse and Hay by 8 up and 7 to play.

FINAL.

In the final played on Wednesday, the 17th July, Messrs. Forrest and Smith receiving a stroke defeated Messrs. Saunders and Burnie. Obtaining a lead of 3 holes in the first nine, they played steady golf to the finish, eventually winning a well fought match by 3 up and 2 to play.

According to a Shanghai paper, Mauser rifles are being imported in large quantities into Shanghai by Continental steamers carrying railroad material. The favourite way is in Norwegian railroad sleepers hollowed out to take four rifles. Whose business is it to stop this, our contemporary asks? It is also stated that one way of getting arms into Shanghai neighbourhood is to have them smuggled up from Hongkong and put into junks outside Woosung. A small native craft with some 30 Mauser rifles obtained in this way was captured at Woosung on the 6th inst., and the boatman was handed over to the officer in the fort. The two shroffs of the importing firm in Shanghai who were superintending the landing of the rifles managed to escape.

A SINGAPORE CRITICISM OF HONGKONG MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

The long-suffering of the Hongkong public is, to all appearance, gradually approaching breaking point as to local mis-government and local sanitation. Hongkong is a *municipium* without municipal administration. The utterly and hopelessly weak point about Hongkong is that it uses Colonial Office machinery to carry out work for which a civil service must be initially utterly unfitted. What does Hongkong need? Quite obviously, the attachment to the Colony of a territorial area sufficiently large and sufficiently populous to enable a Colonial service to do the proper work of the Colonial service, and, incidentally, to leave alone the work of urban administration, for which it is, so to speak, congenitally unfitted. Sir Henry Blake may be Governor of a Colony, but as supervising the sittings of his Legislative Council he is hardly anything but a Municipal President, and not a good one at that, because he and his advisers try to do Municipal work through the absurdly anachronistic channels of Colonial departments. It is true there is a Sanitary Board, which has a consultative value, but no real executive power. It may suggest improvement conceived in the true Municipal spirit, but often enough these do not in the least suit the convenience or the little official routine of the Colonial machine. The official rejection of the advice or suggestion is occasionally couched in the form of a snub, all the more chafing because it is administered by the Man who Does Not Know to the Men Who Do. To invite civil, professional, and mercantile men to advise in matters sanitary, at the expense of their own private professional or business time—probably enough, in one or two cases, pecuniarily worth more, hour by hour, than the tune of the Governor himself,—and then, for little or no reason, to throw over that advice, does not ingratiate the Colonial executive with "the people outside." Were it not for the necessity of finding employment for esurient civilians and cadets, and supplying a Legislative Council with the needful official majority, the Hongkong Government, as a Colonial Office concern, might wash itself out with great benefit to Hongkong. To deal with matters political the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, and the Registrar of Chinese, with the needful clerical establishments would require to continue. The Courts and the Shipping Office of course would carry on. But executive control over the whole town, as a town, should be carried out by a Municipal Commission, with a certain official representation. Lighting, water drainage, buildings, roads, bridges, and sanitation generally, should be looked after by departmental staffs subject to the Municipal Commission. "Scrutator" did great service, in this valuable indictment, in the *Hongkong Daily Press*, of the rottenness of the Government control of that populous town, and unquestionably made good his plea for the institution of a Hongkong Municipality. The *China Mail* was not quite sure that the right men could be got to serve, but was in principle at one with its contemporary on the urgency of municipal reform through the creation of municipal institutions. Let Hongkong be assured. It is easy to understand that a Sanitary Board, incompetent to act of its own motion, should have little attractions to men whose time means personal sacrifice on a considerable scale. But we take leave to say, having followed the deliberations of the Hongkong Sanitary Board for many years, that, generally, the ability and common-sense displayed in its discussions would do credit to any regularly constituted Municipality. And, with the experience of Singapore before us, we do not hesitate to affirm that a body of representative men, possessing large executive Municipal powers, could certainly be got together in Hongkong to carry out all the purposes of Municipal government. Good men abound, as far as we can see, and, in a position in which they could maintain their self-respect, such men would be, as we confidently believe, ready and willing to assume the duties and responsibilities of Municipal administration. That duty is at present carried

on by the Hongkong Government, for the very obvious reason that, without it, there would be little or no work for it to do. And that position of things is enough to account for endless urban mismanagement, and the present unfortunate condition of public health in Hongkong.—*Singapore Free Press.*

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

The trade returns of British North Borneo give the following results:—

	Imports.	Exports.
1900 ...	\$3,178,929.29	\$3,336,621.39
1899 ...	2,456,998.96	3,439,560.33
Increase,	\$721,930.33	Decrease, \$102,938.94

The improvements going on in the territory resulted in a large increase in the importation of materials for telegraphs and railways. In exports there were heavy increases under the heads of gutta percha and timber. Several important export staples show a falling off thus noted in the official customs report:—The decrease in cutch is regrettable owing no doubt to the fluctuation of "home" prices.

The decrease in camphor is also regrettable, but it cannot mean that this product is in any way worked out as all other jungle products have substantial increases. Coffee, as in many other adjacent countries, seems to have seen its days. It is to be hoped for the sake of those now engaged in this production that good times may again come round. The collection of seed pearls seems to have fallen off considerably. Treating the exports generally, it may be said that the decrease is mainly due to an agricultural product (cutch) that is most liable to fluctuation.

GUNNERY ON THE "TERRIBLE."

The cruiser *Terrible* completed her prize-firing on Thursday last, having made 104 hits in 128 rounds with her 6-inch quick-firing guns, or a score of 81.25 per cent., which is a record for this calibre of gun, says the *Naval and Military Record*. When in command of the cruiser *Scylla* Captain Percy Scott astonished the gunnery world with a score of 86 per cent., but the *Scylla* has six 4.7-inch guns, the best hitting weapon, and only two 6-inch guns. Later, when he went to China in the *Terrible*, that ship made the best target practice on the station, and now she has beaten her own performance of last year. Indifferent gunnery has invariably been ascribed to want of sufficient practice by the gunners, but the experience of the *Scylla* and the *Terrible* does not support this suggestion. These two ships stand out prominently because they have produced phenomenal results. Why? The answer is an open secret. The *Terrible* is not the best shooting ship in the service because she has the best guns or the steadiest platform, nor because her guns' crews were specially selected. The explanation is to be found in the recognition of the fact that if the guns cannot hit the target both ship and guns are tinkling cymbals, signifying nothing.

By a coincidence the day after the news of the *Terrible's* successful performance reached England, Commander J. E. Drummond, the gunnery lieutenant of the ship, promoted out of the ship for services in South Africa and China, arrived in this country. It will be remembered that in the final attack on Pieter's Hill, which opened the way to Ladysmith, General Buller asked for heavier artillery and a 6-inch 7-ton quick-firing gun was landed from the *Terrible*, and, on a Scott mounting, was sent to the front under Lieut. Drummond. This was the heaviest piece of ordnance used in South Africa, and the way in which Lieut. Drummond and his men handled it evoked special mention of the officer, who has since been promoted, in General Buller's despatches, for the heavy lyddite shell it poured into the enemy's camp was an important factor in the attack. When news of the disturbances in North China reached Hongkong steps were taken on board the *Terrible* to mount 12-pounder guns, and on the arrival of the ship at Taku these guns were at once taken by Lieut. Drummond to Tientsin, where there is no doubt they materially assisted in saving the garrison.

Later on Lieut. Drummond was the only officer who took guns of this calibre to Peking.

Commander Drummond, to give him his present title, has added greatly to his reputation in brilliant war services by raising the gunnery of the *Terrible* to its present high state of efficiency, and there is reason to believe that even if he had not served in the field with such conspicuous gallantry, the devotion he has shown to his special branch of the service in producing the best shooting results of the world would have won for him his promotion. Only 27 years of age, Commander Drummond has the unique distinction of having within one year taken naval guns to Ladysmith and Peking, and having on both occasions played a leading part in the solution of difficult problems. To these achievements must be added the formation of a *corps d'elite* of naval gunners, who cannot easily be beaten. He has used his opportunities wisely and well, and he has only now to live to become eventually an admiral of the fleet.

HONGKONG.

It is rumoured that the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Captain Superintendent of Police, is returning to England in September next, and that Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Postmaster-General, who was in 1895 Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, is to be appointed Captain Superintendent. There is no official confirmation of the rumour.

During the hearing of a summary case at the Supreme Court on the 13th inst., Chan Shau Nam, broker, plaintiff in an action for brokerage, was found to be committing perjury, and was sentenced by His Honour T. Sercombe Smith to one month's imprisonment with hard labour. It will be remembered that the defendant in another action was recently sent to prison for two months, with hard labour, by His Honour A. G. Wise, for a similar offence. It is to be hoped that such exemplary lessons will have a salutary effect in inducing Chinese witnesses to speak the truth.

Among those who arrived from San Francisco by the *Gaelic* was Mrs. Wu Ting-fang, wife of the Chinese Minister to Washington. We understand that H.E. Wu himself is to follow shortly, as he is returning to settle some family affairs—if indeed he is not actually to retire from his present post. According to Peking reports the official selected to take the place Wu Ting-fang, whose term of office as Chinese Minister to the United States, Spain, and Peru has already expired, is Li Chin-fang, the adopted son of H.E. Li Hung-chang. It is, however, rumoured the Minister-Elect intends to refuse the post.

During the 48 hours ending at noon on the 15th inst. there were reported 4 fresh cases of plague and 7 deaths (all Chinese). Last week's figures were 26 cases and 21 deaths, against the previous week's 47 cases and 46 deaths. Of the 26 cases, 15 were in the City of Victoria itself. Since noon on Monday to noon yesterday there have been reported 5 cases and 5 deaths. Mr. J. Meek, manager, Messrs. G. Falconer & Co., who was admitted to Kennedy Town Hospital about nine weeks ago suffering from plague, has now completely recovered, and will, we hear, be discharged to-day. Mr. Meek's attack was an exceptionally severe one, and left him very weak. It is only within the past week or so that he has been able to walk.

It will be learned with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret that Mr. H. A. Ritchie, the able and popular superintendent of the P. & O. Company here, will shortly be transferred to London. Mr. Ritchie is well known in the Far East generally, having taken a prominent and an active interest in the welfare of the ports he has been stationed at; and whilst all will wish him every success and pleasure in his new sphere, yet many will regret his departure from our midst. The directors of the company have offered him the position of manager of the West End branch of the company's business in London, which he has accepted. He will probably leave to take up the appointment in November, his local successor not having yet been nominated. Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie will be much missed in local circles; and we are sure the Shanghai community will unite with Hongkong in its good wishes.

We learn that, subject to audit, the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will recommend at the forthcoming meeting a dividend of £1.10s. per share; the addition of \$750,000 to Reserve Fund; and the carrying forward of about \$1,475,000.

The fixtures in connection with the Hongkong Water Polo Challenge Shield have just been published, and are as follows:—First round—25th July: R.W.F. (Right) v. V.R.C. "B" team; others drew byes. Second round—26th July: V.R.C. "A" team v. H.M.S. *Janus*; 8th August: R.W.F. (Left) v. R.A. 25th Co., E.D.; 9th August: V.R.C. "C" team v. R.A. 25th Co., S.D.; 10th August: R.A. 38th Co., S.D., v. winners of the first round. All matches must be played at the V.R.C., Kowloon, and will commence on each day at 5.45 p.m., sharp.

A Chinese thief took a particular fancy to house No. 15c, Wellington Street, which is undergoing repairs, and for several evenings paid the inmates visits while they were downstairs at their meal, walking away with various articles such as bedding, etc., and even some of the bamboos comprising the scaffolding around the house. But on the 15th inst. he was detected by the owner of the house in the act of carrying off some other things. The owner gave the alarm, and the thief in his haste to escape fell and severely hurt his ankle. He had to be carried to the hospital, attended by a constable.

His Excellency Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., and Mrs. Gascoigne, left on the 18th inst. for a short holiday in Canada by the s.s. *Empress of Japan*. H.E. arriving at Murray Pier about 11 a.m., was met there by officers of the troops stationed in Hongkong, as well as by Mr. R. F. Johnston, Private Secretary to H.E. the Governor, Consul Volpicelli, Capt. the Hon. H. W. Trefusis, A.D.C. (who himself was leaving on a visit to Shanghai), Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., and several others. After exchanging a hearty farewell and good wishes all round, His Excellency and Mrs. Gascoigne boarded the launch *Alexandra* and proceeded to the *Empress of Japan*, which left the harbour a little before 1 p.m.

The Hongkong Police officials are certainly coming well to the fore. On the 13th inst. they arranged for a billiard match, six of the police to play against an equal number of the Civilian Club. The game started at 2.30 p.m. Though some pretty strokes were made, the match was more remarkable for the genuine good humour prevailing among the opponents than for any brilliancy of play. Refreshments were served *ad libitum* by the genial hosts, and the match concluded at 8.30 p.m., the police winning by sixty points, 799 to 739. Preparations were then made for an impromptu "smoker" to wind up the day, and a really excellent programme was got together in a few minutes. The orchestra (R.W.F. bandmen), consisting of 'cello, flute, concertina, banjo and cornet, was all that could be desired. Song followed song, interspersed by selections from the orchestra, and the performers certainly came off very creditably. Where everybody did his best, it would be invidious to particularise. The entertainment closed with speeches by the chairman, Sergt. Withers, advocating that such gatherings might be of more frequent occurrence, and, on behalf of the Civilian Club, by Mr. Haggart, who thanked the hosts heartily for the pleasant afternoon and evening provided.

On the 13th inst. the British transport *Muttra* arrived from Taku and the U.S. transport *Solace* from Manila, while the British transport *Itea* and *Neraca* left for Calcutta and Taku respectively.

The British transport *Rajah* arrived from Taku, and the British transport *Muttra* left for Calcutta on the 15th inst.

On the 15th inst. H.M.S. *Daphne* went out for practice and H.M.S. *Firebrand* left for Canton.

The chartered transport *Rajah* with Indian troops left for India on the 17th inst. the British transport *Clavering* arrived from Taku, and the U.S. transport *Solace* left for Manila.

On the 18th the British transport *Itinda*, the hospital ship *Carthage*, and the German gunboat *Illis* arrived from Taku, Calcutta and Tsingtau respectively. The British transports *Clavering* and *Rajah* left for Calcutta.

Mr. F. A. Hazeland's appointment to be Second Magistrate is notified in the *Gazette*.

Lieut. J. H. Underwood has been appointed Captain, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, in place of Capt. G. H. Potts, resigned, and Sergeant-Major G. P. Lammert has been appointed to the lieutenantancy thus vacant.

A Chinese hawk, 52 years of age, while walking down the staircase of his house, overbalanced himself, and fell down a distance of about ten feet, fracturing his skull. He was picked up by his friends and at once conveyed to the Tung Wa Hospital, but was found to be dead when examined there. Death apparently had been instantaneous.

MISCELLANEOUS.

M. Besse Desmoulières, the newly appointed Chancellor of the French Consulate-General at Shanghai, was formerly Chancellor of the Singapore Consulate.

Instructions were given for His Majesty's new warsloop *Mutine* to be passed out of dockyard hands at Sheerness on the 19th ult. She is intended for the China station.

Captain John Ross, a mariner of some thirty years' experience at San Francisco, claims to have discovered the site of the wreck of the *City of Rio de Janeiro*. He has, however, kept his secret for six weeks, wishing to get a clear field.

We are informed by Messrs. John W. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received a telegram from the mines, giving the result of the last crushing as follows:—"330 tons of quartz crushed for a yield of 117 ounces retorted gold; mill ran 3 days."

The April and May number of the *China Review* contains an able paper by Mr. T. W. Kingsmill on "The Ancient Distribution of Peoples in the Western and Northern Frontiers of China prior to the Seejukian Irruption," an article on the Hainan aborigines by Mr. F. P. Gilman, a review by Mr. Dealy of *Japanese Plays and Playfellows*, and the usual serial contributions and notes. The number is a good one.

On the 8th inst. an enquiry was held on board H.M.S. *Terrible* into the death of a stoker named Robert Campbell, who was drowned whilst bathing from the ship's side in Kobe harbour on the previous day. Campbell was not a swimmer, and was therefore not supposed to venture in unattended. He did so, however, and had only taken a few strokes when he shouted for help. Another stoker named Plomer went to his assistance, but was unable to keep the drowning man up. Both were sinking, and the ship's boat arrived just in time to drag Plomer in over the gunwale. He had retained hold of Campbell's ear, but the jerk when he was hauled out of the water caused him to loosen his hold, and Campbell at once sank. No trace of his body had been found when the last mail left Japan. Heart-failure is supposed to be responsible for the fatality.

From an "unimpeachable source," the *Nagasaki Press* learns that General Gribski, the military governor of Blagovestchensk and districts, committed suicide a few days ago as he was approaching that city on his return from St. Petersburg. General Gribski, it will be remembered, was in charge of Blagovestchensk in August, 1900, when that city was attacked by Chinese bandits from Aigun, who from the opposite side of the Amur fired on the Russian city. The presence in their midst of a large body of peaceable Chinese was regarded by the Russians as a grave peril, and instructions were asked from St. Petersburg. The now historic telegram "Fling Chinese across Amur" was wired from St. Petersburg, and, during the temporary absence of General Gribski, the message was literally interpreted by the Chief of Police whose bloodthirsty Cossacks gathered the Chinese together, men, women, and children, to the number of nearly 5,000, and literally flung them into the water, none of the Chinese escaping. General Gribski was subsequently recalled to St. Petersburg to explain matters to his Imperial master, and there is reason to believe that he was returning to Blagovestchensk in disgrace and so decided to take his own life.

Mr. P. A. Reutens has won the Championship of the Singapore Chess Club.

The Bangkok Gymkhana Club has been reorganised under the name of the "Royal Bangkok Sporting Club." In all probability the Crown Prince of Siam will become the Patron.

The Perak administration report for 1900 is signed by Col. Walker as Acting Resident. The revenue was \$7,636,126, the highest figure yet reached. The tin export was 355,589 piculs against 318,526 piculs in 1899.

It is reported that beri-beri has broken out among the Chinese coolies employed in Christmas Island. Owing to its isolation, and to the fact that it has only recently become inhabited, Christmas Island is thought to offer an unique opportunity for studying this disease under scientific conditions.

To provide means of bringing home a large portion of its Expeditionary Corps in China, the French Government last month chartered the *Adour*, *Sinai*, *Guadalquivir*, *Alexandra III*, *Saint Pierre*, *Massilia*, *Gallia*, *Chalon*, and another vessel, belonging to various French navigation companies.

M. Klobukowsky, the new French Minister Plenipotentiary to Siam, is to travel out in company with M. Doumer, the Governor-General of French Indo-China. M. Klobukowsky was Chief Secretary to M. Thomson, the Governor of French Indo-China 1883-6, anterior to and during the annexation of Cambodia.

Despatches received in Shanghai from Nanchang, the provincial capital of Kiangsi, report that the late continuous rains in that province had brought down heavy volumes of water from the mountains, inundating nearly the whole province and causing immense damage to property, crops and lives, no less than 4,000 of which were lost during the first three days of freshets. It is feared that the consequent distress amongst the inhabitants of Kiangsi will produce much trouble in the country during the coming winter.

M. Michelot, Inspector of the Banque de l'Indo-Chine, is in Shanghai. The *Echo de Chine* says that his visit to China is not solely concerned with the affairs of the Bank. M. Michelot is charged to Peking with a financial mission which is connected, the *Echo* believes, with the definite adjustment of the indemnity claimed by the Peking-Hankow Railway Company, on account of the damage caused by the war to the works of the line. This financial mission is parallel to the technical mission with which the Chief Engineer Bousignes is charged.

Various rumours are current in Bangkok shipping circles as to coming changes. It is stated, says the *Bangkok Times*, that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co are building a fleet of ten new vessels to be placed on the Hongkong-Bangkok run. Again, Messrs. Bradley & Co. are reported to be making additions to their fleet. Then two additional vessels are under construction for the Norddeutscher Lloyd. That Company has also purchased the s.s. *Maha Vajiravudh* from the East Asiatic Company, and the latter is building two vessels to replace her. Then again, one M. Potal is receiving a subsidy to run a line of French steamers between Bangkok and Singapore. Lastly, it is stated that one of the Singapore Chinese firms engaged in the same trade is putting on an additional vessel. Altogether there would appear to be quite a boom imminent in Bangkok shipping.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1900-01	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	17,231,642	9,506,106

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	8,850,177	8,177,009
Kobe	—	—
Hiogo	—	—
	8,850,177	8,177,009

SILK.

CANTON, 5th July.—Teatles and Re-reels.—The market has been very firm during the fortnight, and prices have strengthened. No settlements are reported. Filatures.—During the first half of the fortnight, prices continued to advance owing to the small stock in ready cargo. Latterly, enquiry has ceased and the market closes quiet, but dealers are still very strong in their demands. Short-reels.—There has been some enquiry for high grades during the last few days and \$770 are reported as paid for Kwong Wo Tai 14/16. Stocks are small, and the prices asked seem to have checked further business. Waste.—Stocks of last season's Waste are now reduced, and prices have in consequence slightly advanced, especially on the lower grades of Steam Waste, for which there is a good enquiry.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	211	789
Yokohama	35,148	84,734
	35,359	85,523

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	6,951	7,415
Yokohama	31,449	21,413
	38,400	28,828

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—There have been no arrivals and the prices are going upward. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.65 to \$8.70	pel.
do. " 2, White.....	8.10 to 8.15	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.55 to 5.60	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.40 to 5.45	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.55 to 8.60	"
do. " 1, White.....	8.05 to 8.10	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.50 to 5.55	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.35 to 5.40	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.95 to 13.00	"
Shekloong "	11.50 to 12.00	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—Prices are advancing, the market being brisk. Quotations are:—
Saigon, Ordinary.....\$2.35 to 2.40
" Round, Good quality 3.40 to 3.45
" Long 3.57 to 3.60
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 2.45 to 2.50
" Garden, " No. 1 3.30 to 3.35
" White..... 3.95 to 4.00
" Fine Cargo 4.15 to 4.20

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Java*, sailed on the 12th July. For London opt. Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For London opt. Goole:—151 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Glasgow:—17 cases blackwoodware. For Marseilles:—6 cases specimens of natural history. For London:—11,877 boxes tea, 705 pkgs. tea from Amoy, 707 boxes tea from Macao, 1,380 pkgs. fire crackers, 118 cases Chinaware, 74 pkgs. antimony ore, 65 bales canes, 30 cases bristles, 26 cases woodware, 5 cases feathers, 2 cases China ink.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—Bengal:—A moderate business had passed during the early part of the fortnight in New Patna at \$947½ to \$940, New Benares \$937 to \$930 and Old Patna \$955, but subsequently in sympathy with Calcutta market ruled very dull and prices dropped to New Patna \$920, New Benares \$902½, Old Patna \$935 and Old Benares \$900. At these rates there was a fair enquiry and prices recovered to \$932½ for New Patna \$907 for New Benares, \$940 for Old Patna and \$907½ for Old Benares.

Malwa:—A small business was done at the following quotations:—

New.....	at \$850
2 Years'	" 860
3 "	" 870
4/5 "	" 890
Persian.—No business transpired in this drug.	
Stock.	
Patna	2,241
Benares	804
Malwa	685½
Persian	2,034

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—Raw cotton has improved further $\frac{1}{2}$ chiefly for superior quality. Stock, about 5,000 bales.

Bombay,	18.00 to 19.00 piculs
Bengal (New), Rangoon, }	18.50 to 23.25 "
and Dacca,	"
Shanghai and Japanese, ...	22.50 to 24.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo,	22.50 to 24.50 "
Sale: 1900 bales.	

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 19th July.—A moderate demand continues in this market and sales to the extent of 8,786 bales are reported as noted below. Prices are, however, unsatisfactory, a decline of 50 cents to a dollar and a half per bale having been established in most spinnings; importers are anxious sellers and sales are being vigorously pressed. Best spinnings could still be placed at quotations, but medium and common threads are weak. The extreme caution, as last advised, is still shown in the dealings of native merchants. Any parcels of desirable quality close at hand or 4 to 6 weeks' delivery are readily taken up, but dealers refrain from contracting further for longer period. Heavy arrivals have taken place during the interval, and although they include a fair proportion of goods in fulfilment of old contracts, our estimate of stocks shows a considerable increase on last figures. The market closes unsteady.

Local Manufacture.—The Hongkong S. W. and Dyeing Mill has resumed operations and sales of about 250 bales No. 10s. at \$89 are reported.

Japanese Yarn continues steady but meets with small request, the sales of the fortnight amounting only to 300 bales No. 20s., at from \$105 to \$109, the market being bare of No. 16s., for which there appears to be a fair demand for export.

Raw Cotton.—There is nothing doing in China Cotton. No stock, or arrival. In Indian descriptions a good demand has been experienced throughout and large settlement are reported, business being equally divided between local dealers, Japan exporters and the local Mill. Superfine machine-ginned Bengal are in most request, but scarce, and any choice parcel offering will command 50 cents to a dollar better in price. Total sales aggregate 1,775 bales at from \$18 to \$23 $\frac{1}{2}$; stocks about 4,500 bales. Quotations are Bengal at \$18 to \$24, Dacca \$19 to \$24 $\frac{1}{2}$, and China \$22 to \$24.

Exchange on India has continued to decline and closes weak to-day at Rs. 144 $\frac{1}{2}$ for T/T, and Rs. 144 $\frac{1}{2}$ for Post. On Shanghai 73 $\frac{1}{2}$, and on Yokohama 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local yarns is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ending 13th instant, viz.:

Indian.—Total sales 10,375 bales, comprising 7,162 bales No. 10s., 310 bales No. 12s., 715 bales No. 16s., and 2,188 bales No. 20s., prices showing a slight improvement of half to one Tael, and market closing strong. Estimated unsold stock about 32,000 bales.

Japanese.—A moderate business continues in these spinnings and sales to the extent of about 1,750 bales were effected on the basis of Tls. 76 to Tls. 79 $\frac{1}{2}$ for No. 16s., and Tls. 78 to Tls. 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ for No. 20s., prices showing an advance of half a Tael, and market closing firm.

Local.—The market continues quiet owing to the ideas of buyers and sellers being too wide apart to lead to much business. The only sales reported being about 2,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 69 to 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ for No. 10s., Tls. 70 to 71 for No. 12s., Tls. 74 to 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ for No. 14s., and Tls. 76 to 78 for No. 16s., prices showing an advance of half to one Tael, and market closing very firm.

COALS.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—Small business doing in Japanese, other kinds neglected.

Cardiff	\$22.00 to 23.00 ex ship nominal
Australian	\$12.00 to 13.00 ex godown, nominal
Yubari Lump ...	\$11.50 to 12.00 ex godown, nominal
Miki Lump	\$10. ex ship
Moji Lump	\$7.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double }	10.50 ex godown
screened	"
Hongay Lump	8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust	6.00
Briquettes	16.00

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn: 3,050 bales No. 10 at \$83 to \$89.50, 650 bales No. 12 at \$85 to \$89.50, 300 bales No. 16 at \$95 to \$100, 2,150 bales No. 20 at \$99 to \$103. Grey Shirtings: 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Triangle at \$4.47 $\frac{1}{2}$, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Mandarin at \$4.30, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. 2 Stags at \$4.50. Mexicans: 750 pieces 32 Blue Dragon at \$2.70 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2,500 pieces 32 No. 2 Silver Lion at \$2.15. Long Ells: 125 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$7, 125 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$7, 100 pieces 8 lbs. Purple at \$7.25, 125 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$7. Drill: 150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$6.35.

METAL.—1,000 bundles, Steel Round Rod at \$4.80, 500 cases Bamboo Steel Pig at \$6.50 to arrive.

COTTON YARN—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$73.00 to \$110.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.15
7 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30
8.4 lbs.	2.70 to 3.30
9 to 10 lbs.	3.35 to 4.50
White Shirtings—54 to 58 rd.	2.35 to 2.60
58 to 60 "	3.00 to 3.90
64 to 66 "	4.00 to 5.50
Fine	5.10 to 7.40
Book-folds	4.10 to 6.10
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.72 to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.60 to 1.80
7lbs. (32 ")	1.85 to 2.15
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs.	1.80 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ")	2.70 to 3.85
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.75 to 3.80
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to }	4.00 to 6.75
16 lbs.	"

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to }	1.55 to 5.00
8 lbs.	"

Brocades—Dyed	— — —
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	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.20 to 0.22 $\frac{1}{2}$

	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.36 to 2.50

WOOLENS—

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.80 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.....	1.25 to 2.50

	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.40 to 10.00
Assorted.....	6.50 to 10.10
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches }	8.00 to 20.00
Assorted }	"
Orleans—Plain	8.50 to 10.00

	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00 to 18.00

METALS—

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.30 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.20 to —
Swedish Bar	6.25 to —
Small Round Rod	4.75 to —
Hoop $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	5.25 to —
Wire 15/25	8.25 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	8.25 to —
Australian	8.60 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	40.50 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —
Composition Nails.....	63.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	43.00 to —
Tin.....	69.50 to —

	per box.
Tin-Plates	7.00 to —

	per cwt. case
Steel to $\frac{1}{2}$	5.75 to —
New Chops 14/20 oz.	— to —

SUNDRIES—

	per picul
Quicksilver	168.00 to —
	per box.
Window Glass	5.50 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil.....	2.15 to —

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—Our market has continued its dull and lifeless course during the week just brought to a close, and with a few unimportant exceptions, there is nothing encouraging to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have remained very dull, and a few small sales at \$397 per cent. premium only are recorded. For August a small parcel has changed hands at 405 per cent. premium. The market closes with sellers at 397 per cent. premium cash. Bank of China and Nationals are unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—The only sale we have to report is in Yangtses at \$120. Other stocks are unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires are on offer at \$350, and China Fires at \$85.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao receded somewhat in the earlier part of the week, but on \$35 $\frac{1}{2}$ being reached a fresh demand set in, and a very fair business has been done at this rate and at \$35 $\frac{1}{2}$. The market closes firm at the higher quotation. Indo-Chinas have been done in small lots at \$140 and \$139 ex dividend cash and for the end of the month, and the market closes with further sellers. Sales forward on a moderate scale have been booked at equivalent rates to October. China-Manilas are unchanged. Douglasses have declined to \$54. Star Ferries have been sold and are wanted at \$24 (old) and \$9 $\frac{1}{2}$ (new). Shells have buyers at £2. 12s. 6d.

REFINERIES.—Small sales of China Sugars are reported at the reduced rate of \$142 $\frac{1}{2}$. Luzons are on offer at \$36.

MINING.—Punjoms have declined to \$5, at which there are sellers. Rauba have been booked at \$12 $\frac{1}{2}$, and close with sellers at \$13.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been placed at \$310 and \$309 $\frac{1}{2}$, and there are some shares now to be had at \$305. Sales for September at \$320 and for October at \$325 are also reported. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharfs are in the market at \$102. New Amoy Docks have improved to \$23 $\frac{1}{2}$ buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have received but scant attention in spite of the interim dividend of \$6 shortly to be paid, and sales down to \$197 are reported. The market closes with a somewhat better feeling at \$198 steady. Kowloon Lands, West Points, and Humphreys Estates are on offer at quotations. Hongkong Hotels are wanted at \$130.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos and Soy Chees have declined to Tls. 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ and Tls. 325 respectively. Hongkong Cottons continue in request at \$10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been done at erratic rates from \$19 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$20 $\frac{1}{2}$, and there are further buyers at the higher quotation. Watsons have been sold and there are further sellers at \$16. Hongkong Electrics are wanted at \$12 and \$6 for the old and new shares respectively. Ices have buyers at \$185. Ropes are to be had at \$175. China-Bornes are on offer at \$38. Tramways continue in request at \$260. China Providents have been sold at \$9.85, and more shares are to be had. Campbell Moores are wanted at \$20.

MEMOS.—Subject to audit, the directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will recommend at the forthcoming half-yearly meeting of shareholders, a dividend of 30s. per share; the addition of \$750,000 to reserve fund; and the carrying forward to new account of about \$1,475,000. The Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Company, Limited, in Liquidation, hold an extraordinary meeting of preference shareholders to discuss Liquidator's proposals for dealing with the Company's assets, on the 20th instant. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Company, Limited, ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders on the 6th August, transfer books will be closed from the 24th instant. Tebrau Planting Company, Limited, ordinary general meeting of shareholders on the 30th instant; transfer books closed from the 23rd instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{397, p. ct. prm. = [3621], sellers L'don, £62.
China & Japan, ordy.	24	21.
Do. deferred	21	25. 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$28, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$28, buyers
Foun. Shares...	21	\$15, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	21	\$1.10.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$38, sellers.
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$20, nominal
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$9.85, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$142½, sales
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited...	\$500	\$1,500, sellers
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.)	\$50	\$60, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Fls. 100	Fls. 47½.
International	Fls. 100	Fls. 42½.
Laon Kung Mow	Fls. 100	Fls. 50.
Soychee	Fls. 500	Fls. 325.
Yahloong	Fls. 100	Fls. 27½.
Hongkong	\$100	\$10½, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$7½, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$19½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$130, buyers
Hongkong Electric {	\$10	\$12, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$5	\$6, buyers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd. {	\$100	\$260, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	15	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$180, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$185, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$102½, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$175, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$305, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$180, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$85, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$60, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$350, sellers
North China	225	Fls. 180, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$340.
Yangtze	\$60	\$120.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$198, sales
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$13½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$54, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$36, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$56½, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$325.
Jebeu	\$5	\$44, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd....	250.	5 cents
Olivers Mines, A....	\$5	\$1, sellers
Do. B.	\$4½	\$1, sellers
Punjom-	\$9	\$5, sellers
Do. Performance...	\$1	\$1½.
Raubs	18	\$13, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$8½	\$23½, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$70.
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$30	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$63.
China Mutual Pref.	\$40	\$52.
China Ordinary	210	212.
Do.	210	212.
Do.	25	27.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$54, sales
H., Canton and M....	\$15	\$3½, sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	210	\$140, ex div., sells.
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	21	{22. 12s. 6d. buys.
Star Ferry	\$10	{2½, buyers {9½, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$11.
Do.	\$10	\$20.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$19½, buyers
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	nominal.
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10½, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$16, sales & sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 10th July (From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Local sales took place at 385, 387.50 and 397.50 per cent. prem., market closing steady at this figure. Settlements were made at 400 for 10th August, 405 for 31st

August, and 405 per cent. prem. for 10th September. **INSURANCE.**—Marine.—Yangtzes were placed at \$120 and are wanted; other stocks unchanged. Fire.—Nothing doing. **SHIPPING.**—Indo-China S. N. Co.—Cash prices are steady, and sales are reported during week at Fls. 113, 112, 111, 112.50 locally. The following are the settlements:—112.50 for 15th inst., 113 and 114 for 31st inst., 114 for August, 116 for September, 117 for October, 120 for December. Shell Transport shares are offering. **SUGARS.**—Perak shares changed hands at Fls. 77.50 cash and are wanted. Settlements were at Fls. 80 for September. China Sugars are quiet. **MINING.**—Kaiping Mines.—It is notified that no dividend will be paid on the old shares of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. for the period previous to 19th February, 1901, the date of the taking over of the Old Company by New; after that date profits go to shareholders in the New Company, and no holders of old scrip will then be entitled to dividends. The market has been active during week and cash shares have been placed up to Fls. 320; sales were made for 31st inst., and for October at Fls. 310. **DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.**—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd. Cash shares were placed at Fls. 300 and 297.50 (cum div.), and at 277.50 and 275 (ex div.); shares are offering. Settlements were made at Fls. 297.50 and 300 for 31st inst. (cum div.) and for September at Fls. 310 and 307.50 (cum div.). Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at Fls. 310 cash and are offering. **LANDS.**—Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. A dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year to 30th June has been declared payable on 15th inst. Shares are wanted. As the new issue of 13,000 shares is completed the capital stock of the Company is now 39,000 shares at a nominal quotation of Fls. 100. Humphreys Estate shares were placed at \$13 locally. **INDUSTRIAL.**—Gas shares wanted. International Cotton Mill shares were placed at Fls. 42.50 and Yeh Loongs at Fls. 27.50. Soy Chee Mills are offering. Flour Mill shares sold at Fls. 42.50 and are offering. Cigarette Co.'s shares changed hands at Fls. 50 and are wanted. Ice shares sold at Fls. 32 and are offering. Green Island Cement shares and Moutrie & Co. shares are offering. **TUGS AND CARGO BOATS.**—Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd.—An interim dividend of Fls. 5 per share has been declared payable on 12th inst. Cargo Boat shares are offering. **MISCELLANEOUS.**—Sumatra Tobacco shares are offering. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co. An extraordinary meeting of shareholders is called for 22nd inst. to consider certain propositions lately suggested by shareholders to the directors. Business has been done at intermediate rates from Fls. 260 to 275 for cash, the market closing with sellers at Fls. 270. Settlements have been made for 31st inst. at Fls. 365, 370, 372.50, August 380, September 385, October 380 to 390, November 380, 385, 390 and 395, December 390, 395 and 400. Hall & Holtz shares sold at \$34 and are wanted. Central Stores shares are wanted. Telephone shares were placed at Fls. 60. **DEBENTURES.**—6 per cent. Investments are wanted. **NEW COMPANY.** Astor House Hotel Co. A syndicate has bought up the Astor House Hotel and floated the concern as a Company under capital of \$450,000, divided into 4,500 shares of \$100 each, which have all been subscribed for. Demand for the shares brought about private sales up to \$300; later sales are reported at \$275.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Kanagawa Maru (str.).
FOR LONDON.—Peleus (str.), Alcious (str.), Sunda (str.), Shanghai (str.), Deucalion (str.), Stentor (str.), Kanagawa Maru (str.).
FOR LIVERPOOL.—Patroclus (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Annam (str.), Kanagawa Maru (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Bayern (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Wuersdurg (str.), Acilia (str.), Alexandria (str.), Sibiria (str.), Andalusia (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Glenogle (str.), Kinshin Maru (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.), Tartar (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Hongkong Maru (str.), Gaelic (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Hudson (str.), Arara (str.), L. Schepp, I. F. Chapman, Manuel Llaguno
FOR SAN DIEGO.—Strathgyle (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Yawata Maru (str.), Trinan (str.), Australian (str.).
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Kagoshima Maru (str.).
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—Bisagno (str.).
FOR CALCUTTA DIRECT, VIA SINGAPORE.—C. Ferd Lariss (str.).

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 19th July.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer1/11
Bank Bills, on demand1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand2.42
Credits, 4 months' sight2.45½

ON GERMANY.—

On demand1.96

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand47
Credits, 60 days' sight47½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer144½
Bank, on demand144½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer144½
Bank, on demand144½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight73½
Private, 30 days' sight74

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand6½

ON MANILA.—

On demand3 c.p.m.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand115½

ON BATAVIA.—On demand

ON HAIPHONG.—On demand

ON SAIGON.—On demand

ON BANGKOK.—On demand

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

BAR SILVER per oz.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 19th July.—Freights are weak, with very little demand for tonnage. Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul is offered for medium sized carriers; to Philippines, 42 cents per picul; to one port north coast Java, 35 cents per picul. Bangkok to this, no demand. Java to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul might be obtained for dry sugar. Newchwang to Canton, 35 cents nominal. Coal freights.—Mojito to Hongkong, \$2.50, to Singapore, \$3 per ton. Sailing vessels.—The American ship *Helen A. Wyman* has been fixed to load here for Baltimore, rate private.

The following are the settlements:—

Manuel Llagano—American ship, 1,650 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

Helen A. Wyman—American ship, 1,664 tons, hence to Baltimore, private terms.

Katsuyama Maru—Japanese steamer, 1,006 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 34 cents per picul.

Fooksang—British steamer, 991 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 35 cents per picul.

Kueiyang—British steamer, 1,062 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 36 cents per picul.

Brand—Norwegian steamer, 1,510 tons, Cebu to Kobe or Yokohama, 30 cents per picul.

Hipsang—British steamer, 1,040 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.

Tingsang—British steamer, 1,045 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.

Flandria—German steamer, 1,277 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.50 per ton.

Pioneer—German steamer, 875 tons, Moji or Karatsu to Manila, \$4.75 per ton.

Babelsberg—German steamer, 1,379 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 37 cents per picul.

Benlawers—British steamer, 1,484 tons, Saigon to one port 36 cents, two ports north coast Java, 38 cents per picul.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port 36 cents, two ports north coast Java, 38 cents per picul.

A B. & S. steamer, Saigon to one port 35 cents, two ports north coast Java, 37 cents per picul (44,000 piculs).

Benlarig—British steamer, 1,453 tons, Saigon to one port 35 cents, two ports north coast Java, 37 cents per picul (40,000 piculs).

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 43 cents per picul.

Piccola—German steamer, 875 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 43 cents per picul.

China—German steamer, 1,371 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 41 cents per picul.

Piccola—British steamer, 875 tons, Saigon to Cebu (18,000 piculs), 45 cents per picul.

Pioneer—German steamer, 975 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,350 per month.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

July—

- 13, Michael Jebsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 13, Anping Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
 13, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
 13, Solace, Amr. trspt., from Shanghai.
 13, T. Soutua, Amr. str., from Manila.
 13, Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.
 13, Prometheus, British str., from Shanghai.
 14, Taishun, American str., from Shanghai.
 14, Salazie, French str., from Shanghai.
 14, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 14, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
 14, Nanchang, British str., from Tientsin.
 15, Maria Valerie, Austrian str., from Japan.
 15, Rajah, British transport, from Taku.
 15, Elsa, German str., from Hongay.
 15, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 15, Toonan, American str., from Haiphong.
 15, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
 15, Bingo Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 15, Arratoon Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 15, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 15, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 15, Macduff, British str., from Moji.
 15, Guthrie, British str., from Sydney.
 16, Sambia, German str., from Foochow.
 16, Kutsang, British str., from Samarang.
 16, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Australia.
 16, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
 16, C. F. Laeisz, German str., from Kobe.
 17, Choysang, British str., from Wuhu.
 17, Tientsin, British str., from Bombay.
 17, Aristeo, Austrian str., from Moji.
 17, Clavering, British transport, from Taku.
 17, Banca, British str., from London.
 17, Eridan, French str., from Saigon.
 17, Glaucus, British str., from Shanghai.
 17, Phra Nang, German str., from Bangkok.
 17, Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.
 18, Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
 18, Coromandel, British str., from London.
 18, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 18, Conch, British str., from Balik Papan.
 18, Laisang, British str., from Moji.
 18, Itinda, British transport, from Taku.
 18, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Japan.
 18, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 18, Chinkiang, British str., from Iloilo.
 18, Sithonia, German str., from Hamburg.
 18, Carthage, British hosp. sh., from Calcutta.
 18, Iltis, German gunboat, from Tsingtau.
 18, Clara, German str., from Pakhoi.
 18, Taishun, American str., from Canton.
 19, Sunda, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Humber, British storeship, from Woosung.
 19, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 19, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Elita Nossack, Ger. str., from Chinkiang.
 19, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 19, Kashang, British str., from Manila.
 19, Perla, British str., from Manila.
 19, Cheangchow, British str., from Straits.
 19, C. H. Kian, British str., from Singapore.
 19, Independent, Ger. str., from Newchwang.

July—

DEPARTURES.

- 14, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 14, Marie Jebsen, German str., for Saigon.
 14, Prometheus, British str., for London.
 14, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Dutch str., for Chefoo.
 15, Salazie, French str., for Europe.
 15, Muttra, British transport, for Calcutta.
 15, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 15, Indrani, British str., for New York.
 15, Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.
 15, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
 15, Taishun, American str., for Canton.
 15, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 15, Flandria, German str., for Yokohama.
 15, Firebrand, British gunboat, for Canton.
 15, Iris, American trspt., for Manila.
 15, Reilly, American trspt., for Manila.
 15, S. Antonio, American trspt., for Manila.
 15, Else, German trspt., for Manila.
 15, Amara, British str., for Newchang.
 16, Obi, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 16, Olympia, British str., for Tacoma.
 16, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 16, Michael Jebsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 16, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 16, Elsa, German str., for Canton.
 16, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.

- 16, Toonan, American str., for Haiphong.
 16, Trym, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
 16, Hiroshima Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 17, Solace, American trspt., for Manila.
 17, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 17, Haitan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 17, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
 17, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 17, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 17, Maria Valerie, Austrian str., for Trieste.
 17, Glenesk, British str., for London.
 17, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 17, Indrapura, British str., for Portland.
 17, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 18, Clavering, British transport, for Calcutta.
 18, Rajah, British transport, for Calcutta.
 18, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
 18, Sambia, German str., for Hamburg.
 18, C. F. Laeisz, German str., for Calcutta.
 18, Eridan, French str., for Kobe.
 18, Glaucus, British str., for London.
 18, Fushun, British str., for Canton.
 19, Coromandel, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Whampoa, British str., for Amoy.
 19, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 19, Macduff, British str., for Shiwuiyan.
 19, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 19, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
 19, Wongkoi, German str., for Pakhoi.
 19, Elita Nossack, German str., for Canton.
 19, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
 19, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. F. B. Marshall, A. B. Johnson, A. W. Bain, Miss Green, and Miss Snuggs.

Per *Gaelic*, from San Francisco, Messrs. A. B. Bowers, Paul Floor, Dr. D. E. Mellis, Messrs. W. Symmes, W. M. Levensalor, Edwin Grainger, Claude Lefray, G. H. Dam, Lieut. and Mrs. W. J. Sears, U.S.N., Lieut. R. F. Peiniger, Messrs. A. J. Dickson, M. Frick, B. Nabholz, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Russell, Messrs. Alex. Ross, A. J. Finlay, J. D. Hilton, Neetsdorf, and Robert Breitzmann, Jr.

Per *Salazie*, from Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. L. Micheaux and Godfrey; from Taku, Mr. Bernard; from Nagasaki, Mr. Jouston; from Shanghai, Rev. Leon Badet, Messrs. C. P. Simpson, Concetta Caminiti, Ernest Esposito, J. J. Sherida, M. Smolik, Gaperiel, and H. J. Hemmy; for Saigon, from Taku, Mr. Giraud; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Fute Fujita, Yone Morisaki, Haruo Mori, Chirva Saito, and S. Hirata; from Shanghai, Mr. Holland; for Singapore, from Kobe, Mr. Y. Shibutani; for Port Said, from Shanghai, Mr. A. A. Shauss, Mr. and Mrs. Breetman, Messrs. Giuseppe Corrado and Martino Kurtoire; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Col. Birlochon, Messrs. Brunschvoing, Gray, and L'Abbe Demangelle; from Taku, Messrs. Michard, Koux, Moussillac, Anne, Mariaux, Morte, d'Hangonwaert, de Seguer, R. Ferouche, Lagisquet, Chauvelot, Crautmann, Baudero, Grouillez, Ducam, and Charpentier; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Labadewes, Lafaurie, de Nautois, Bande, and de Valence; from Shanghai, Mr. P. Boyd, Sisters Gregoriana, Graziani, Lemei, and Bernard.

Per *Arratoon Apcar*, from Calcutta, &c., Rev. L. Deseragens.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mr. W. L. Crossan, Mr. M. de la Huguera, Lieut. W. M. Lindsay, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Lewis, Major E. R. Webster, Mrs. G. E. McGinley, Dr. M. B. Palmer, Mr. B. W. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Butterill, Messrs. W. G. Paul, A. L. Casali, V. Pisarita, Thomas Malcolm, and Capt. G. Parker.

Per *Bingo Maru*, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Mrs. A. Sawyer, Messrs. Hemans, Heckford, Agoncillo, Mrs. B. Ford, Mr. Bettington, Mrs. Ford, Messrs. Ferguson, McGregor, Johanson, P. Illum, Mrs. Brask, Mr. Rival, and Mrs. Weil and child; for Kobe, Miss Marcus, Mr. and Miss Murase; for Yokohama, Dr. T. Yabe, Mr. K. Kubota, Mr. and Miss Gentile, Mrs. Van Doolen, Mr. and Miss Mastropasqua.

Per *Guthrie*, from Sydney, &c., for Hongkong, Messrs. S. G. Hobson, C. F. Smith, F. W. Ambrose, T. R. Jones, and G. Rogers; for Japan, Messrs. J. P. Rae and Victor Meeks.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Australia, for Hongkong, Dr. Max Hulier, Mr. James Clarkson, Mr. and Mrs. Maclean, Mr. R. A. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Rettig, Mrs. W. A. Fittion and two children, Messrs. H. S. Godfrey and J. F. Dredge, Hon. and Mrs. John F. Shafroth, and Mr. M. Shafe; for Kobe, Messrs. B. Hoaner, K. Matsuda, M. Tagawa, Morita, and Mrs. T. Yoshikawa; for Yokohama, Miss J. M. C. Miller, Miss F. C. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Croudace, Lady H. d'Anjor, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Crawford, Mr. R. G. Edgell, Mrs. Edgell, Mr. H. Himmelhoch, Mrs. Jessen, Miss Jessen, Mr. and Mrs. Grey, Miss Croudace, Mr. and Mrs. P. Stewart and child, Capt. Shank, Major and Lady H. S. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. W. Sincifer and daughter, and Mr. W. Gale.

Per *Clavering*, from Taku, Capt. Boome and Lieut.-Col. Spencer.

Per *Eridan*, for Hongkong, from Saigon, Messrs. Monin, Clart, and Joomofes; for Yokohama, from Haiphong, Mr. Meiffre; from Marseilles, Rev. G. de Noailles.

Per *Fushun*, from Shanghai, Captain Savieck.

Per *Hailoong*, from Swatow, Mr. Potts.

Per *Coromandel*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Andrew and two children, Messrs. Campbell, Ward, Guyett, Edwards, and Rutherford, and Rev. and Mrs. John Steele; from Marseilles, Mr. N. Lazarus, Capt. Rotherham, and Mr. F. D. Irvine; from Bombay, Mr. A. Mohledina; from Colombo, Col. Mathison and Mr. R. B. Ramsay; from Singapore, Lieut. Georgehegan; for Shanghai, from London, Messrs. E. Cochayne, D. Davies, P. Thomas, and Miss Newton.

DEPARTED.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila, Mr. Tyson, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Whitton, Capt. Taylor, Messrs. A. H. Macdonald, James J. Wilson and G. A. Yoanovich.

Per *City of Peking*, for Amoy, Master A. de Carvalho; for Shanghai, Mrs. H. Lovely, Messrs. E. Tellefsen, E. Bernheim, E. H. Banvard, W. Banvard, M. A. Vort, Mrs. Banvard, Miss Banvard, Miss Carlotta, Miss Eugene, and Mrs. Bell; for Nagasaki, Messrs. W. Stuart Harrison and S. James; for Kobe, Mr. K. S. Corfield; for Yokohama, Mrs. Stevenson, Messrs. W. W. Goddard, and R. P. Cordill; for San Francisco, Mrs. S. Clifford, Mr. Geo. W. Pigman, U.S.N., Messrs. Jacob Miller, H. E. Stone, J. Guderian, and John Ryan; for Chicago, Rev. M. J. Coldren.

Per *Salazie*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Messrs. J. Ferrando, Jas. Watson, S. C. Ismail, I. M. Elias, P. M. L. Roux, and J. Grossin; for Singapore, Mr. G. Karlades; for Marseilles, Lieut. P. G. M. Barris, Messrs. A. dos Santos, A. Bastos, A. H. Reich, H. G. Pringle, A. Francisco, A. Costa, A. Belchiar, J. A. da Silva, A. S. Souza, J. Sollane, and P. Gaillard.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Hon. H. W. Trefusis, A.D.C., Messrs. A. A. Ebrahim, J. A. Wilson, J. Kallen, Mr. and Mrs. L. Knox, Messrs. L. Nigg, T. J. Sheridah, Mrs. Hill and child, Messrs. Brask, Illum, Johansen, and H. Rival; for Kobe, Messrs. H. E. Moon and A. H. Rennie; for Yokohama, Messrs. A. L. Castle, T. H. Owens, Lieut. M. W. Lindsay, Miss Francis Gray, Messrs. D. Gillies, H. W. Bird, Miss E. Bird, Miss Maker, Mr. A. A. Campbell, Capt. Cruickshank, Capt. Clapham, Major Koe, Mr. T. M. Wakefield, Sergt. J. J. Watt, and Mr. W. A. B. Wheeler; for Nagasaki, Mr. C. J. Tyndal Lea; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Boggs and infant, Major E. K. Webster, Mr. W. L. Crossan, and Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Lewis; for Banff, Major-General and Mrs. Gascoigne; for Portland, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jackson; for Liverpool, Mr. O. Jebe; for London, Lieut. A. P. Niblack, Messrs. F. B. Marshall, B. Bettington, and Mrs. W. A. Filton and two children; from Shanghai, for London, Mr. E. B. Tellefsen; from Yokohama, for London, Mr. W. A. Filton.

Per *Bingo Maru*, for Japan, Miss Marcus, Dr. T. Yabe, Mr. K. Kubota, Mr. and Miss Murase, Mr. and Miss Gentile, Mrs. Van Doalen, Mr. and Miss Mastropasqua, Miss S. Kajima, and Mr. S. Okada.

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